Land Records and Settlement Departments, C. P. reports

1905-06 & 1910-11 to 1913-14

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REPORT

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ON THE

OPERATIONS OF THE LAND RECORDS AND SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENTS

IN THE

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No. 257.

FROM

Mr. C. W. E. MONTGOMERIE, I. C. S.,

COMMISSIONER OF SETTLTS. AND DIR. OF LAND RECORDS,

Central Provinces,

To

THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER,

Central Provinces.

Nagpur, the 18th January 1907.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the annual report on the operations of the Department of Land Records and Settlements for the year ending the 30th September 1906.

PART I.—OPERATIONS OF THE LAND RECORD DEPARTMENT.

I.—LAND RECORD ESTABLISHMENT.

2. During the year under report the transfer to Bengal of the bulk of the Sambalpur District and the re-distribution into three districts of the portion of Chhattisgarh, which remains to the provinces, caused a number of exchanges of staff betweeen the Chhattisgarh districts. These exchanges are somewhat complicated and need not be given in detail here. Seventeen Revenue Inspectors' circles from Raipur and two from Bilaspur were formed into the new Drug District, while one Revenue Inspector's circle of Sambalpur was incorporated in the Bilaspur District. Two Revenue Inspectors' circles were transferred from Sambalpur and two from Bilaspur to the Raipur District. Besides these changes the division of the portion of Chhattisgarh, which still forms part of these provinces, into 10 tahsils instead of 7 has made necessary a number of changes in the boundaries of Revenue Inspectors' and patwaris' circles and the creation of one more Revenue Inspector's circle in Bilaspur and four in Raipur. Outside Chhattisgarh changes in establishment during the year were few. In Chanda the revised halkabandi of the whole district (except the Lower Taluq of Sironcha) has received sanction and come into force. The staff has been further strengthened by the addition of one Asssistant Superintendent of Land Records, one Revenue Inspector, 32 patwaris and one draughtsman. In Hoshangabad one patwari's circle has been abolished, because the ryotwari villages of which it consisted have been transferred back to the Forest Department. Besides these alterations proposals for the appointment of an Assistant Superintendent of Land Records for the Damoh District and for a complete revision of the halkabandi in Mandla, have been submitted.

Measures taken to improve the prospects of the staff.

3. The principal measure affecting the prospects of the staff which has come into force during the year has been the abolition of the patwari cess and the consequent payment from general revenues of the Land Record staff. This will undoubtedly benefit the staff by saving them the trouble of collecting dues from tenants and the risk of short collections and has, on the whole, been accepted as a boon by the *personnel.* This reform was rather suddenly introduced, and in some districts the patwaris suffered some loss by being unable to collect the outstanding balance of their dues. Proposals for a grant to patwaris who thus lost money have been submitted, but some further details are required. Consequent on the change in their status from village servants to Government servants patwaris will now be generally exempted from payment for *nistar* in Government forest. The Commis-

sioner, Jubbulpore Division, notes that some complaint is made that patwaris are inclined, in their new position as Government servants, to overlook their obligations to the village community, this danger will require the attention of District Officers for several years.

4. Seven Superintendents of Land Records were on deputation at the close of the year under report. Of these four were on Settlement duty, one on Foreign Service in Indore, one on special duty in connection with the survey of boundaries of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, and one as Instructor of the Nagpur Agricultural School. Of the Assistant Superintendents of Land Records on deputation five were employed in the Settlement Department, one was acting as Additional Tahsildar and two were on duty in the Chhattisgarh Feudatory States. Among Revenue Inspectors, 14 were on Settlement duty during the year, six were appointed to act as Naib-Tahsildars, two were in Foreign Service in Indore and five in the Feudatory States, seven were on deputation in the Agricultural Department, two in the Excise Department and two under the Court of Wards. There are 18 Revenue Inspectors of not less than three years' standing who are passed students of the Agricultural School, and four who have passed the F. A. Examination. There are thus 20 Revenue Inspectors, qualified for appointment as Naib-Tahsildars, and of these four are holding the appointment of Naib-Tahsildar.

2.—Land Record Work.

Working of the Patwari Fund.

5. The Patwari Fund ceased to exist from the 1st April 1906. On 31st March 1905 the fund showed a deficit balance of Rs. 75,853-0-5. Contributions from Provincial revenues amounting to Rs. 75,953-0-5 were made, leaving the fund with an opening balance of Rs. 120 on the 1st April 1905. The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 4,95,573-3-8 and the expenditure to Rs. 5,48,529-4-11. The expenditure exceeded the receipts and opening balance by Rs. 52,836-1-3.

Changes in the system of Land Records.

6. The changes in the system of Land Records during the year under report were confined to matters of detail. The hot weather jinswar has now been abolished and the milan khasra will in future be able to be filed on 1st April instead of 1st June. Land Record Circular 49, giving instructions for the record by patwaris of the increased revenue annually created by Government Irrigation Works, was issued towards the close of the year under report, and the prescribed system will during the present season come everywhere into operation. A set of instructions emphasizing the administrative control of Tahsildars over the Land Record staff of their tahsils has been issued by the Local Administration. The power to grant leave to patwaris and Revenue Inspectors has by these instructions been extended to Tahsildars and no member of the staff has now an excuse for unauthorized absence, however great the emergency. A simpler form of Survey-mark certificate is now being printed and will be supplied to districts as the old stock is used up.

Condition of village maps.

7. The condition of village maps shows a general improvement on the previous year, though there is still room for progress. The correction of maps by patwaris receives every year more systematized attention. The idea of showing separately in the returns the errors in map correction detected by the inspecting staff has been under consideration for some time, but has been found too difficult and has been dropped. In most districts the renewal of worn out traces has been carried on as usual during the rains, and it is believed that during the last year or two the condition of traces has really improved.

The number of villages in each district for which traces were renewed during year under report is as follows:—

Saugor	... 312	Wardha ...	... 269
Jubbulpore	... 309	Hoshangabad	... 139
Damoh	... 666	Nimar ...	... 104
Nagpur	... 460	Betul ...	... 226
Chanda	... 116	Chhindwara ...	... 181
Bhandara	... 241	Narsinghpur ...	... 140
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In the rice districts, where fields are tiny, the stretching of traces leads to inaccuracy. Backing traces with stout paper leads to creases in the map and has been abandoned. How to avoid the stretching of the tracing cloth has been further investigated during the year. Mr. Hemingway, Settlement Officer, Raipur, has discovered that most of the stretching takes place as soon as the cloth is unrolled and can be much reduced by stretching the cloth during the rains for a few days before it is used. Tracing glasses are also being used with success in the Raipur Settlement office, and it is hoped that the process of making new traces—now so tedious and difficult in rice districts—will be made easier as time goes on. In some provinces the village maps are reproduced by mechanical processes. The Surveyor-General's office has made an excellent reproduction by the Vandyke direct zinc printing process of a Raipur rice village map, but there are many points to be considered before the present system of tracing by hand is abolished.

Condition of village boundary and traverse marks.

8. In Nagpur and Wardha, where the Wajib-ul-arz fixes the responsibility for the proper maintenance of each traverse mark on the village boundary, the person responsible for the maintenance of a faulty mark is first warned by the Revenue Inspector that the mark needs mending and is reported to the Tahsildar, only if he does not repair it. This system is said to be working well and a full report will be submitted on the subject in about a year's time. The Deputy Commissioner of Wardha reports that contumacious mukaddams who had to be reported to the Tahsildar were by him given a further period to mend the marks, instead of being at once fined under Sections 141 (*d*) and 161-A, Land Revenue Act. A warning by the Revenue Inspector would be more effective if it became known that a report to the Tahsildar against a mukaddam brought with it an immediate fine instead of a futher period of grace.

Recent inspections have shown that the "*Chanda* certificate" annually prepared by each patwari is very often compiled by hearsay or simply from imagination without an inspection of the marks. The Deputy Commissioners of Nagpur and Drug have been requested to try the experiment of having the condition of each survey mark noted in red ink in column 13 of the khasra against the number in which each lies. Thus the *Chanda* certificate will become as much a compilation from the khasra as any other paper and the correctness of the notes on which it is based will be checked along with the khasra by the checking staff. At the same time a simplified form of certificate is being substituted for the old form. It is hoped that fudged *Chanda* certificates will in time become less common and that action upon the certificates, when complete, will become less dilatory and more effectual.

Boundary marks of survey numbers in ryotwari villages.

9. The maintenance of the hosts of little survey-marks, which are needed in ryotwari villages to show the boundaries of each number, is by no means easy to secure, especially in districts where ryotwari villages are too few to receive much special attention as such. Where, as in Chanda, it is possible to appoint a ryotwari Naib-Tahsildar, a rapid improvement in this respect should soon be seen. Except in the few ryotwari villages in Chhattisgarh the condition of such survey-marks is generally sufficiently good, though there are complaints from Mandla and Seoni that the number is too great.

Testing of village papers by Revenue Inspectors.

10. The total number of khasra numbers in the province amounts to close on 15 million, of which nearly 8 million are in the Chhattisgarh Division. The sum total grows steadily year by year as land is sub-divided and jungle broken up. The percentages of khasra entries tested by Revenue Inspectors in each district during the year under report (excluding those in which regular settlement operations were in progress) are as follows:—

Saugor ...	... 17	Betul ...	... 11
Damoh ...	... 12	Chhindwara (khalsa)	... 14
Jubbulpore ...	... 11	„ (jagirs)	... 15
Seoni ...	... 15	Wardha ...	... 24
Narsinghpur ...	... 15	Nagpur ...	... 23
Hoshangabad ...	... 19	Bhandara ...	... 12
Nimar ...	... 23	Balaghat ...	... 11

In districts like Betul and Bhandara where fields run large and cropping is intricate a larger percentage of check than 12 cannot be expected. These percentages are quite high enough provided that the check can be relied upon as really thorough, denoting that every entry against the numbers checked is correct. There is however a tendency to sacrifice the check of other village papers to secure a big outturn of khasra numbers, and a Revenue Inspector should not be judged solely by the number of khasra numbers he has tested. Fifty khasra numbers in Chhattisgarh could be checked in less time than one of the big and intricate numbers so common in Betul. The percentage of inaccuracies corrected is nowhere very high and in the province as a whole has fallen from 1·47 to 1·17. In Chhindwara (Khalsa) the percentage is again high (2·52) because errors in map correction are included besides mistakes in rent, right and possession.

By Superintendents of Land Records and Assistant Superintendents of Land Records.

11. The checking done by Superintendents of Land Records and their Assistants is on the whole satisfactory in point of quantity, but it is often hard to believe that it was accompanied by a sufficient check of the compilations, majmua and rasid-bahis, diary, &c., of the patwaris and of the work of the Inspectors. It cannot be too often impressed on Superintendents of Land Records that it is their business to superintend the work of the Revenue Inspectors and not to relieve them of their work by independent checking of masses of khasra entries. After the end of December a Superintendent of Land Records should seldom or never look at entries which have not been checked by the Revenue Inspector. Inspectors would scamp their work less often if Superintendents of Land Records stuck to this rule, though the outturn of check by Superintendents of Land Records and their Assistants would of course be less large. The amount of checking by these officers in Nagpur and Hoshangabad shows a satisfactory advance on the previous year. With very few exceptions the Deputy Commissioners speak well of their Superintendents of Land Records and these officers are, as a rule, both reliable and efficient inspecting agents in the field. The registers kept up by Revenue Inspectors, Kanungos and the Land Record clerk (Patwari Fund clerk) are apt however to receive less attention than they deserve, though to this rule there are one or two honourable exceptions.

Check by Tahsildars.

12. Tahsildars and their Naibs generally manage to do a reasonable amount of khasra checking, though it is to be feared that the check is sometimes a little random and superficial. It will probably be found that more interest is taken in this branch of their work by Tahsildars now that their authority over the Land Record staff in their tahsils has been emphasized. Tahsildars should do their best to make their khasra testing a check of the Revenue Inspector as well as the patwari, whenever time allows them to pick the place where they will make their check. The number of entries checked by Tahsildars has again risen from 77,000 to 78,000. In 1902-03, the number checked was only 47,000. The Deputy Commissioners have kept an eye on this portion of their subordinates' work and have dealt suitably with dilatoriness in this respect.

Checked by Deputy Commissioners and their Assistants.

13. Returns of checking by Deputy Commissioners and their Assistants are again incomplete in more than one district. 20,464 entries in 2,044, villages (against 23,520 entries in 1,710 villages last year) is the amount of check recorded. The difference between the numbers checked in the different districts corresponds more or less to the difficulty in checking numbers thoroughly, except that in Jubbulpore the number checked is almost as high as in Raipur.

By Director and his Assistant.

14. My own tours and those of my predecessor Mr. Standen were, as usual, confined almost entirely to the tahsils which were under settlement, but Mr. Standen in Saugor and Damoh, and I in Jubbulpore and Mandla, did some checking. My Assistant, Mr. A. K. Smith, made a tour of four months in Nagpur, Bhandara, Drug and Balaghat, and inspected the work of the Land Record staff of those districts. Except in Balaghat, where the Superintendent of Land Records has since reverted to his permanent post of Assistant Superintendent of Land Records, for incompetence to manage his staff, his reports show that the land records are on the whole satisfactorily maintained.

15. Excluding districts under settlement 10 per cent of the entries in the jamabandis were checked with the khasras by the Kanungos as the jamabandis were filed, except in the Narsinghpur District where the work in one tahsil fell into arrears. In the Chhattisgarh districts discrepancies between khasras and jamabandis are more common than elsewhere, but a good many of these are inherited from settlement and are due to blunders in copying the settlement records for patwaris' use. Elsewhere mistakes are not very numerous. Many of the discrepancies placed on record by Kanungos are trifles such as omission of caste or parentage, misspelling of a name, or the like. Attention seems now to be paid to jamabandis by the Revenue Inspectors and Superintendents of Land Records in several districts, and the check by the Kanungo will in future be examined by Assistant Superintendents of Land Records. The percentage of inaccuracy discovered by Kanungos is for the whole province 1·25 per cent, which is about the same as last year's figure (1·33).

Check of jamabandis by Kanungos.

16. Papers were filed in the year under report with a good deal less punctuality than in the previous year. Hoshangabad, Chhindwara, Wardha and Nagpur are the only districts where all papers were filed in time, though the unpunctualities in Narsinghpur (3) and Betul (4) are too trifling to be worth mention. Such punctuality is most creditable to the supervising staff of these six districts. The progress of settlement in Mandla, Chanda and the Chhattisgarh districts, of map correction in Baihar, and Seoni tahsils and of a special enquiry into the question of re-settlement in Jubbulpore, explain the delay in these eight districts. The unpunctualities in Saugor, Damoh, Nimar and Bhandara have been dealt with by the Deputy Commissioners of those districts. The dates for the submission of papers by patwaris to Revenue Inspectors, by Revenue Inspectors to the Superintendents of Land Records and by the Superintendents of Land Records to the tahsil have now been definitely fixed by the Chief Commissioner, and the ambiguity which previously existed is now removed.

Degree of punctuality observed in filing papers.

17. All Kanungos' offices, except those of the Bilaspur District, have been regularly inspected by the District staff and nearly all by the Divisional Commissioner. Two Kanungos' offices were inspected by me and 13 by my Assistant. The Kanungos are reported, with the exception of those at Khandwa, Chhindwara and Dindori, to have performed their duties in a satisfactory manner. The worst part of a Kanungo's work is generally the maintenance of price registers and circle note-books. Price registers go wrong because few Kanungos use a reliable formula in translating into seers and decimals the price as locally expressed, while circle note-books are spoilt in many tahsils by sheer carelessness in copying from the statistical registers. A Land Record Manual in vernacular for the use of the Land Record staff, with a series of instructions for Kanungos, is under preparation in this office. There is now no compendious set of instructions in the vernacular, and it is hoped that this manual will do real good in familiarizing Kanungos with the details of their work and will assist Sub-Divisional Officers and Superintendents of Land Records in checking and setting right such blunders.

Most Superintendents of Land Records have put in the two inspections of each Kanungo's office which the rules require. The policy of keeping Kanungoships as a haven for the old age of deserving Revenue Inspectors has been hampered because the pay of Kanungos is less than the pay and full field allowance of Revenue Inspectors, but the Chief Commissioner has now sanctioned the grant of allowances to a certain number of Revenue Inspectors so provided for. A list of Revenue Inspectors fit for appointment as Kanungo is maintained in this office and a number of such appointments have been made during the year under report.

18. In all 367 sanads for agricultural improvements were granted as against 225 in the previous year. The increase was considerable in Saugor. Most of these are issued for wells and field embankments of a more or less permanent nature.

Issue of sanads for agricultural improvements.

19. Now that receipt stamps have been done away with, the sale by patwaris has of course ceased. Quinine was sold during the year only by patwaris of the Bhandara District,

Miscellaneous work. Sale of stamps and quinine.

where quinine to the value of Rs. 258 was sold. The sanction of the Local Administration to the extension of the sale of quinine by patwaris to the remaining four districts of the Nagpur Division was received towards the close of the year under report. The districts are being supplied with quinine, but the regular sale has not yet commenced. The Deputy Commissioner of Bhandara pointed out that patwaris had some difficulty in replenishing their stock of quinine under the existing rules and an improved set of rules has been submitted for the sanction of the Chief Commissioner.

Preparation of grazing lists.

20. The work thrown on patwaris by the Forest grazing rules is still found to obstruct their legitimate duties to a certain extent, especially when settlement is in progress. Where the commutation system is not in force the work thrown on patwaris is not very arduous and the Land Record staff are beginning to accommodate themselves to the additional work.

Instruction of school boys in village papers.

21. The patwaris are required to give a certain amount of assistance in teaching village school boys the meaning and use of the village papers. This duty was, until the issue of Land Record Circular 48 last year, nowhere clearly defined and both schoolmasters and Deputy Inspectors were under the impression that the patwari was alone responsible for this teaching. The patwari's duty has now been fixed in consultation with the Director of Public Instruction who has, in consultation with me, drawn up a series of hints on the subject for masters of rural schools, which will shortly be issued in the vernacular and taught in the Normal schools. All misconceptions and complaints on the part of masters and patwaris should thus be shortly removed.

3.—Conduct of Land Record Staff.

Residence of patwaris within their circles.

22. At the close of the previous year there were in the province 186 patwaris who had the Divisional Commissioner's permission to reside outside their circles. The number has now risen to 191, which is $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent of the total number of patwaris. A further $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of patwaris live outside their circles without permission. The rise in number of non-resident patwaris without leave (284 to 306) is due to the Chanda returns and is accounted for by the alterations in boundaries of patwaris' circles and to the number of new patwaris who have not had time to take up their residence in their new circles. Saugor, Jubbulpore and Chhindwara show a satisfactory decrease in the number of patwaris openly non-resident without permission. The difficulties n the way of literal and universal enforcement of the rule were fully set forth in paragraph 22 of last year's report and need not be repeated.

Training of patwaris.

23. The following table shows the number of patwaris and candidates examined and passed in survey and manual during the year under report in the different districts:—

District.	Survey.				Manual.			
	Examined.		Passed.		Examined.		Passed.	
	Patwaris.	Candidates.	Patwaris.	Candidates.	Patwaris.	Candidates.	Patwaris.	Candidates.
Saugor	24	25	19	18	25	24	20	18
Damoh	...	16	...	15	26	16	24	10
Jubbulpore	47	58	40	41	55	28	45	15
Mandla	...	50	...	49	132	2	90	2
Seoni	...	38	...	33	48	...	36	...
Narsinghpur	17	22	15	20	17	31	8	25
Hoshangabad	127	47	77	31	44	14	32	12
Nimar	50	97	31	60	50	24	31	15
Betul	...	...	1	14	35	9	20	3
Chhindwara	...	24	...	17	3	34	3	20
Wardha	32	29	32	23	32	29	32	23
Nagpur	27	33	19	22	34	33	26	20
Chanda	19	16	19	4	...	...	...	...
Bhandara	1	31	1	25	53	5	40	3
Balaghat	...	36	...	33	123	4	99	3
Drug	34	34	26	17	34	34	26	17
Raipur	50	146	150		94	67	58	32
Bilaspur	68	32	42	15	68	32	42	15

The survey course is now too brief and the possibility of improving it will be borne in mind. The manual on which patwaris are now examined is not exhaustive in detailing the duties of patwaris, and the new Land Record Manual under preparation in this office will be more complete. Many of the duties of patwaris are nowhere set down in a form accessible to a patwari, who only reads his own vernacular and thus he has to depend on oral tradition a good deal. A thorough knowlege of the manual as it now stands is not enough if a patwari is to have a complete knowledge of his work.

It was remarked in last year's report that some Revenue Inspectors were supposed to be imperfectly acquainted with the details of their work and my Assistant was directed to report on the knowledge possessed by the Revenue Inspectors of the districts in which he toured. It appears that about one Revenue Inspector in three is more or less in need of instruction, but Rule 5 of Appendix I to Revenue Book Circular III—1, requiring Revenue Inspectors to pass an examination, will not be enforced until they have in their hands the new Land Record Manual. At present it is very difficult for a Revenue Inspector to read up his duties unless he understands English and has quite a library of Revenue Book Circulars, Land Record Circulars, &c.

IV.—*Conduct and Discipline among Patwaris.*

24. The punishments inflicted upon patwaris compare as follows with those of the previous year :—

	1904-05.	1905-06.
	No.	No.
Dismissals	138	88
Reductions	14	22
Fines	1,034	1,154
Suspensions	67	92
Transfers	65	82
Total ...	1,209	1,438

There is thus an increase in the total number of punishments inflicted which extends to all species of punishments except dismissals. The total sum exacted from negligent patwaris was in 1904-05 Rs. 3,326 and 1905-06 Rs. 4,528. The decrease in dismissals is probably due to the growing difficulty, in finding a competent successor to the dismissed patwari, which is frequent. It is hoped that, now that patwaris are wholly dependent on the Treasury for their pay, it will be possible to keep a tighter hold on the men, though the Deputy Commissioner of Nagpur points out that much fining is impossible with the pay of a patwari so near the margin of subsistence. I fear that the recent manganese boom in the Wainganga Valley is demoralizing many patwaris by the opportunities of illicit gain which it affords. The Deputy Commissioner of Balaghat mentions rumours of patwaris charging prospectors Rs. 10 for an examination of the village papers. It is obviously difficult to maintain discipline among a staff whose duties become yearly more complicated and whose pay becomes yearly less adequate. The improvement of patwari's pay and allowances is to be dealt with according to the requirements of each district.

During the year under report rewards of more or less value—generally pagris—were distributed in most districts to the best of the staff. The total sum spent in this way was Rs. 3,661 up to the close of the year under report, which is Rs. 867 less than the sum exacted from the patwaris in the way of fines. In Chanda, Raipur and Drug no particulars of the amount distributed in prizes is given. These gifts are valued by the recipients at more than their real value as a sort of testimonial from the Government, but are only a makeshift means of recognizing merit in patwaris. A good deal of trouble is exerted in selecting the recipients of these gifts by most Deputy Commissioners and my Assistant ports that he has not seen a bad patwari rewarded though plenty of good ones eve never got a prize.

Revenue Inspectors—their Conduct, Discipline and Qualifications.

25. The figures of punishments inflicted upon Revenue Inspectors show little difference from last year. The punishment roll is as follows:—

Description of punishment.	Number of Punishments.									
	Jubbulpore.		Nagpur.		Chhattisgarh.		Nerbudda.		Total.	
	1905.	1906.	1905.	1906.	1905.	1906.	1905.	1906.	1905.	1906.
Dismissals ...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	2
Reductions ...	...	2	5	3	1	...	4	...	10	5
Fines ...	2	10	3	...	5	10	6	2	16	22
Suspensions ...	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	1	1	3
Transfers ...	1	2	1	4	1	...	4	...	7	6
Total ...	4	15	9	7	8	12	14	4	35	38

There are 209 Revenue Inspectors in the provinces, and it has only been found necessary to dismiss two during the year under report, one for insubordinate conduct and one for corrupt practices. In Jubbulpore, Narsinghpur, Hoshangadad, Wardha, Chanda, Bhandara and Drug no punishments were inflicted during the year. The Revenue Inspectors of the province as a whole perform a most laborious task in a very fairly efficient manner and taking them all round are an exceedingly useful and reliable set of men. The expansion of the Agricultural Department is at present absorbing the men who have received a technical training at Nagpur, but this is only a temporary interruption to the recruiting of specially trained men for the Land Record staff.

Superintendents of Land Records and Assistant Superintendents of Land Records.

26. Most Deputy Commissioners are able to speak in excellent terms of their Superintendents and the following are specially well mentioned:—

Mr. Shridhar Lakshman Pusutkar, Nimar.

Mr. Gopal Ramchandra, Nagpur.

One Superintendent of Land Records had to be reduced during the year and another was relegated to his substantive post as Assistant Superintendent of Land Records for incompetence.

The Assistant Superintendents of Land Records as a body include plenty of good material.

4.—Utilization of Land Records.

Circle note-books.

27. The Circle note-books for each Revenue Inspector's circle, which are kept up by the Kanungos, have now been written up to 1904-05 in all the districts of the province, except Chanda, Raipur and Drug where the changes in the halkabandi have made necessary a thorough revision. In the districts under settlement and in the Baihar and Seoni tahsils where map correction was going on, the books were not complete by the end of the revenue year, but have since been brought up to date. Recent inspections showed that the errors in these books were more numerous than had been supposed and the statistics of one village were found to contain no less than 25 per cent of mistakes. It has been recently suggested to Deputy Commissioners that the Assistant Superintendents of Land Records of their districts might make a detailed check of a good proportion of these figures. This has been done in nearly every district and the result has been the detection and correction of a large number of errors. It is hoped that these registers are now in a fairly accurate condition.

28. Village note-books are as a rule punctually written up by the respective Revenue Inspectors, except in the districts under settlement or map correction: these books are generally up to date, though the Saugor, Jubbulpore and Damoh reports speak of a number of villages where the Revenue Inspector has neglected this work. Defective books are being replaced by degrees and the entries are now much less untidy than they used to be.

Village note-books.

29. The District reports as a rule bear indications of the personal interest of the Deputy Commissioner in the Land Record work of his district; this is specially noticeable in the reports from Balaghat, Betul and Chanda.

General.

The inspections of Land Record work by Mr. A. K. Smith, Assistant Settlement Commissioner, have been well done and of real value to the Deputy Commissioners concerned.

PART II.—OPERATIONS OF THE SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT.

30. The operations conducted during the year ending on 30th September 1906 consisted of—

I. Revision of settlement in malguzari villages in Sambalpur, Chanda, Mandla, Raipur and Bilaspur.

II. Revision of settlement in zamindari estates in Sambalpur, Chanda and Bilaspur.

III. Ryotwari settlements principally in Chanda and Mandla.

IV. Correction of maps and records preparatory to settlement in the Baihar Tahsil of Balaghat and in Seoni.

31. The orders of the Government of India on the Final Settlement Reports of Hoshangabad and the zamindari estates in the Raipur District were received during the year. The review on the Final Settlement Report of the Drug District was submitted. Proposals for the inception of settlement operations in the Jubbulpore and Seoni districts were also submitted towards the close of the year, and orders for the commencement of operations in Jubbulpore have since been issued The period of settlement in the Damoh District expired on the 30th June 1906, and a report by Mr. Standen, on the prospect of re-settlement, was submitted, but re-settlement cannot be undertaken during the current field season; the maps are being brought up to date.

I.—THE REVISION SETTLEMENT OF MALGUZARI VILLAGES.

32. *Sambalpur.*—Mr. F. Dewar, I. C. S., was in charge of the operations up to March 1906 when he was transferred to Nagpur as Deputy Commissioner, leaving Mr. Ramkrishna Khando Indurkar, Assistant Settlement Officer, in charge to wind up the settlement. The bulk of the Sambalpur District was transferred to Bengal at the commencement of the year under report, and the settlement staff were transferred at the same time. The proceedings of the settlement staff, however, remained under my direction during the year. The revised assessment of the remainder of the *khalsa* was announced during the year (339 villages or 516 square miles); but the assessment of the Chandurpur-Padampur Estate (234 villages, 299 square miles), which is held on a peculiar tenure, was not sanctioned till after the close of the year. The assessment is now being announced. All records belonging to the Bengal portion of the district were handed over to the District office before the close of the year.

Mr. F. Dewar, Settlement Officer.

Mr. Ramkrishna Khando Indurkar, Assistant Settlement Officer.

Mr. Kaluram Pachore, Assistant Settlement Officer.

33. The total cost of the operations of the year was Rs. 29,340 as against Rs. 56,589 in the previous year. The total cost from the commencement of settlement to the end of the year under report (including the whole of the Sambalpur District as it used to stand) is Rs. 2,34,598, which falls at Rs. 52 per square mile of the area under settlement, including both the malguzari and zamindari settlements. Messrs. Ramkrishna Khando Indurkar and Kaluram Pachore have worked carefully.

Mr. J. T. Chamberlain, Settlement Officer.
Mr. Mahmud-ul-Hasan, Assistant Settlement Officer.
Mr. Laxman Piraji, Assistant Settlement Officer.

34. *Chanda.*—Mr. Chamberlain, I. C. S., was in charge of the settlement operations up to March 1906, when he was posted as Deputy Commissioner of the district, and the winding up of the settlement was left to Mr. Mahmud-ul-Hasan, Assistant Settlement Officer. The revised revenue of 59 and the revised rents and revenue of 761 *khalsa* villages were announced during the year. Part of this work had to be done during an unusually heavy monsoon, and it speaks well for the energy and devotion of the staff that this work was successfully accomplished, so completing the re-settlement of the *Khalsa* portion of the district, except in 46 villages, where the assets had changed so largely since announcement that revision was proposed.

35. The completion of records and their transfer to the District office was vigorously pushed on and the end of 1906 sees the completion of a settlement which has been greatly hampered and complicated by bad seasons.

36. The cost of operations during the year under report (including zamindari, ryotwari and malguzari settlements) was Rs. 29,478. Last year the expenditure was Rs. 68,057, since when the staff has been very greatly reduced. The cost rate of the area assessed has since last year fallen from Rs. 63-3-8 to Rs. 50-13-4 per square mile. It is now calculated that the final cost per square mile will be Rs. 50-7-0.

37. Mr. Mahmud-ul-Hasan's conduct of the work since he was put in charge has been marked by creditable energy and common sense.

Mr. H. F. E. Bell, Settlement Officer.
Mr. Laxman Bapuji, Assistant Settlement Officer.
Mr. Chhagan Lal, Assistant Settlement Officer.

38. *Mandla.*—Mr. H. F. E. Bell, I. C. S., was throughout the year in charge of the operations of the settlement. The progress of attestation was again hindered by the outbreak of cholera in Mandla, in March, and by the necessity of inquiries into damage by hail and frost to crops, but most of all by the inferiority of the Dindori patwari staff, who were found to have allowed the corrected maps of the tahsil again to become out of date. The attestation work also of the Superintendent of Land Records was found so bad that it had nearly all to be done over again by an Assistant Settlement Officer. In spite of these difficulties 498 villages (803 square miles) were attested by the Revenue Inspectors, and the Settlement Officer inspected 457 villages (719 square miles) and had, by the time he had finished touring, inspected all villages which the Assistant Settlement Officers had ready for inspection. There thus remain 478 villages for attestation by Inspectors—about a year's work. The preliminary report on the Dindori Tahsil was submitted during the year under report and forwarded to the Secretariat shortly after its close.

39. Work on the preparation of grazing lists kept both Patwaris and Revenue Inspectors away from office until late in the monsoon, and the work to be done during the office season could not be completed till after the close of the year. The size of assessment groups was enlarged with a view to simplifying settlement procedure, but the change incidentally involved some delay in submission, and in addition to the Rent-rate Reports for 265 villages already submitted but detained pending the orders of the Government of India on the preliminary report for the Mandla Tahsil, Rent-rate Reports for only 104 villages were submitted before the close of the year. Rents were proposed for the two plough-rented groups (Ghugri and Chhapartala) of the Mandla Tahsil. The draft Wajib-ul-arz submitted last year was again discussed, revised and

re-submitted, and a preliminary report on the revision of the halkabandi was also submitted and sanctioned.

40. The reconciliation of the revenue and forest maps proceeded during the year, but it has now been found that the 4-inch to the mile printed sheets of the Forest Survey Department do not in all cases agree with the 16-inch original survey sheets: all the reconciliations previously carried out had thus to be checked again, and when this re-check was completed the maps of 481 more villages were reconciled.

41. The expenditure on the settlement, excluding the pay of the Assistant Commissioners on training, was Rs. 45,409. Last year the expenditure was Rs. 40,047. The cost rate on the area attested by Inspectors up to the end of the year works out at Rs. 56-8-9 per square mile.

42. Mr. Bell again speaks very highly of his senior Assistant Mr. Laxman Rao and confirms his previous good opinion of Mr. Chhagan Lal. The progress of assessment has been equal to that of last year, and considering the difficulties which Mr. Bell has had to face, a quicker rate of progress cannot be expected. Mr. Bell's work was again marked by insight, energy and resource.

43. *Raipur.*—Mr. H. E. Hemingway, I. C. S., was in charge of the settlement operations throughout the year in the *khalsa* portion of the district as it stood before the formation of the Drug District. The office season of 1905 was protracted and field work began late. The previous year's work was the re-attestation of villages in which the soil classification had been passed by Mr. Blenkinsop. In 1905-06, hardly any of the villages to be attested had been classed by soils under Mr. Blenkinsop and all the Inspectors and Mr. Mir Padshah, Assistant Settlement Officer, had to be trained in soil classification. The attestation of the Dhamtari Tahsil was completed by the middle of May and work was started concurrently in Baloda Bazar about the beginning of February. The large villages of the latter tahsil, with their sharp changes of soil and inaccurate village records, were only attested with great difficulty, and the Settlement Officer speaks highly of the work accomplished in this tahsil by Mr. Chhote Lal, Assistant Settlement Officer. A revised system of soil classing suitable for this tahsil was worked out. By the end of the year 378 villages (545 square miles) had been attested by Revenue Inspectors and 571 villages (849 square miles), including villages attested on the previous year, had been inspected by the Settlement Officer. The attestation and inspection of the Dhamtari Tahsil was thus completed. Besides this inspection work Mr. Hemingway toured through the deteriorated Lawan Pargana of the Baloda Bazar Tahsil to collect information for the preliminary tahsil report, and with the Forest Divisional Officer made a tour of inquiry in the villages lying in the Dhamtari and Sihawa ranges to investigate the income derived from forest produce, since the *siwai* income of these villages is now so much larger than at the last settlement that its assessment requires careful handling.

Mr. H. E. Hemingway, Settlement Officer.
Mr. Chhote Lal, Assistant Settlement Officer.
Mr. Mir Padshah, Assistant Settlement Officer.

44. Office work continued throughout the year under report and the ryotwari abstracts of the Dhamtari Tahsil were finished by the statistical branch. The formation of the new Drug District necessitated re-casting assessment groups according to the new district boundary, and for the simplification of procedure the size of the groups was enlarged; thirteen old groups of the tahsil were re-cast into seven, two of which fall in the new Baloda Bazar Tahsil. A good deal of re-totalling was rendered necessary by these changes and the submission of Rent-rate Reports was delayed. Only three Rent-rate Reports (for 354 mahals or 562 square miles) were submitted during the year, but the balance has since been completed. The preliminary report on the Dhamtari Tahsil was submitted. It was found necessary to re-survey 21 villages (24 square miles) during the year and the necessary map correction was carried out in 126 villages (266 square miles).

45. The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 56,263. Last year when work was not begun till January the cost was Rs. 45,919. The cost of work per square mile cannot at this stage be conveniently shown.

46. Mr. Hemingway has nothing but praise for his senior Assistant, Mr. Chhote Lal, and speaks well of the thoroughness with which the junior Assistant, Mr. Mir Padshah, has mastered his duties. The Settlement Superintendent, Abdul Qayum, though a failure in the field, has maintained his reputation as a first class worker in office. Mr. Hemingway got through a large quantity of work and evolved a system for future attestation which promises well for the accuracy of the settlement.

47. *Bilaspur* (*Khalsa*).—Settlement operations were throughout the year in charge of Mr. J. E. Hance, I. C. S., and the area to be settled under his direction includes the *khalsa* portion of Bilaspur as it stood before the formation of the Drug District, except some villages south of the Mahanadi. The attestation of that portion of the old Mungeli Tahsil (132 villages) which was not complete at the end of the previous year, was continued and the attestation of the Bilaspur Tahsil was begun. In the previous year Revenue Inspectors attested the considerable area of 749 villages covering 741 square miles, but the rejection of much of this work, as inaccurate, caused delay which extended to the present year. Five Inspectors were employed in correcting mistakes discovered by the Settlement Officer and his Assistants instead of getting on with their attestation work and the swing of the pendulum from haste to caution ended in a small outturn by the Inspectors. The Settlement Officer lost one of his assistants at the beginning of the season and the new Assistant Settlement Officer was not fully trained until April. The Superintendent of Land Records, who was in charge of an attestation party, again failed to reach the required standard of accuracy, and Mr. Hance had thus only the assistance of one fully trained assistant throughout the season. 237 villages were attested by Revenue Inspectors, 301 passed by Assistant Settlement Officers and 437 inspected by the Settlement Officer.

Mr. J. E. Hance, Settlement Officer.
Mr. Ravi Shankar, Assistant Settlement Officer.
Mr. Vishnu Ramchandra Paradkar, Assistant Settlement Officer.

48. The partial failure of the rice crop in 1905-06 and the general apprehension of famine led to the withdrawal of Patwaris from office before the middle of October 1905, and their detention in the field until the monsoon of 1906 was well established. Office work was thus in arrears at the beginning of the year, and in the office season of 1906 the whole of the arrears could not be overtaken. The office work, however, is well done, and the field staff has been carefully instructed in the revised system of soil classing, so that work should now go at the proper pace.

49. Mr. Hance submitted during the year the preliminary report on the Mungeli Tahsil. The partition of the old Mungeli Tahsil between the Mungeli and Bemetara Tahsils involved considerable alterations in the boundaries of groups, and the groups were also enlarged for the sake of simplicity. This caused delay and the first Rent-rate Reports were submitted after the close of the year.

50. Mr. Hance is able to speak very favourably of his senior Assistant, Mr. Ravi Shankar, and of the second Assistant Settlement Officer, Mr. Vishnu Ramchandra Paradkar.

51. The expenditure on settlement operations during the year amounted to Rs. 45,573. Last year the operations only began in January and the cost was Rs. 31,966.

52. Mr. Hance's standard of work is high, and he has not spared himself in endeavouring to attain it.

II.—Survey and Assessment of Zamindari Estates.

53. *Sambalpur.*—The staff which assessed the *khalsa* also dealt with the assessment of zamindaris. Announcement of rents was complete in all the zamindaris except Phuljhar by the end of March, and the takolis of all the zamindaris, which have been transferred to Bengal, were also announced during the year. Assessment reports were submitted for Garhloisingh and Kolabira early in the year and for Phuljhar later. The only work on the zamindari settlement which is still to be done is the announcement of rents and takoli in the Phuljhar Zamindari (520 villages and 554 square miles) which is now in the Raipur District. As soon as orders are received the announcement will be completed.

54.—*Chanda.* The only work remaining to be done at the commencement of the year under report was the announcement of kamil-jama in 317 villages left over at the close of the preceding year, the revision of takoli in all the zamindaris and the announcement of the revised takoli. The kamil-jamas were all announced and the records of the villages completed before the end of 1905; proposals by Mr. Chamberlain for the fixation of takoli were submitted and orders received; and the announcement of revised takoli in three zamindaris was completed during the year under report. The takoli of the remaining 17 zamindaris has been announced since the conclusion of the year, and the Chanda zamindari settlement is thus complete.

55. *Bilaspur.*—In Chanda and Sambalpur the zamindari settlement has been carried out by the same staff and under the same direction as that of the *khalsa* villages. In Bilaspur it was decided to put a separate officer in charge of the revision of settlement and at the beginning of January 1906, Mr. C. U. Wills, I. C. S., was transferred to Bilaspur as Zamindari Settlement Officer. The season was thus short and the work to be done lay in different directions. The small Kanteli Zamindari (44 villages) was attested and inspected; a good preliminary report for the Pandaria Zamindaris was submitted, attestation was undertaken in the Kenda Zamindari (72 villages) and the Pendra Zamindari (200 villages) and would have been completed had the maps been correct. But after the original survey of 1894—96 map correction had been neglected. When the supervising staff was strengthened in 1901 map correction was begun; but a large balance remained, and attestation was delayed while 2,000 acres of new cultivation in Kenda and 7,000 acres in Pendra were surveyed. By the end of the field season 216 villages altogether had been attested by Inspectors, 189 checked by the party officers and 144 finally inspected by the Settlement Officer. The outturn of work is very low, but is all that could be accomplished. Besides his inspection work Mr. Wills made tours in the Pandaria, Matin and Lapha zamindaris, to collect information on the condition of the country; and wrote the preliminary report for the Kenda and Pendra zamindaris, which was, however, held over for discussion by a Board and therefore submitted after the close of the year.

Mr. C. U. Wills, Settlement Officer.
Mr. Chunni Lal, Assistant Settlement Officer.

56. By the end of the office season the records for all but 15 of the villages passed by the Settlement Officer in the field season had been completed. All claims for protected status by thekedars in the Kanteli, Kenda and Pandaria Zamindaris were enquired into in the office season and the question of boundaries between the zamindaris taken up.

57. The expenditure during the year, including somewhat heavy initial expenditure on tents and instruments, amounted to Rs. 23,853.

58. Mr. Wills has formed a good opinion of his Assistant, Mr. Chunni Lal. The thoroughness and insight of Mr. Wills' work promises well for the settlement.

III.—Ryotwari Settlement.

59. *Chanda.*—The work u(done at the commencement of the year comprised the original survey of 9 villages, the final inspection of 25, submission of Rent-rate Reports for 26 villages and of Assessment Reports for 144, besides announcement of jamas and the final completion of records in 148 villages. Survey and final inspection were completed early in the year under report, orders on the assessment of three groups of villages (112 villages) were received and jamas had been announced in 86 of these by the close of the year. The balance (26) have since been announced. Rent-rate Reports for the 26 villages already referred to and Assessment Reports on the 144 remaining villages were also submitted. Scales of acreage rates for ryotwari villages not placed under regular settlement were also prepared and supplied to the Deputy Commissioner. Work in now virtually complete.

60. *Mandla, Raipur and Bilaspur.*—A considerable ryotwari tract in Mandla and a few scattered villages in Raipur and Bilaspur (*khalsa*) are being settled under the direction of the Settlement Officers of those districts, and figures of the ryotwari and malguzari settlements are not distinguished in the District Settlement Reports.

61. *Nagpur, Bhandara, Nimar and Seoni.*—Rent-rate and Assessment Reports for two villages in Nagpur were submitted during the year and the sanctioned revenue was announced on receipt of orders by the District Land Records staff. From Bhandara a Rent-rate Report for 9 ryotwari villages in the Sakoli Tahsil was submitted. In Nimar announcement was completed in two malguzari villages and in four thekadari Police abadi villages, for which assessment proposals were submitted last year. From Seoni the assessment of two ryotwari villages was submitted.

IV.—Correction of Maps and Records Preparatory to Settlement.

62. *Balaghat (Baihar Tahsil).*—The map correction commenced in the Baihar Tahsil in the previous year was brought to a conclusion in the year under report by the Assistant Settlement Officer in charge, Mr. Lancaster. Field work was started on December 1st, but was not in full swing until early in January and was hindered by the scattered nature of the work to be done by the inferiority of the Patwari staff and the impossibility of obtaining trained candidates for the perpetual vacancies on the staff. It was in the end found necessary entirely to resurvey 20 villages (30 square miles) which had been badly surveyed originally on the basis of an inaccurate local traverse, but in the other villages which had been surveyed on the same locally made traverse the interior survey was reasonably correct and the stations of the new traverse were simply transferred to the survey sheets. Besides this, original survey maps for 111 villages were thoroughly corrected and checked, every survey mark in the ryotwari estate was put into proper order with permanent pillars to mark off reserves of trees, and the boundaries of both malguzari and ryotwari villages have been throughout the tahsil measured up and compared with the Forest maps. All differences have been reconciled and no disputes now exist.

63. Office work was again very heavy. Besides the correction of the original sheet three traces of each map and three copies of the corrected record of each ryotwari village were made for the District office, the tahsil and the patwari's use. Traces for a great number of malguzari villages were also prepared.

64. The cost of the operations during the year was Rs. 11,571 which works out at Rs. 68 per square mile of the area dealt with. Last year the total cost was Rs. 11,294 and the cost per square mile Rs. 67-10-2; as pointed out last year this would be a high rate for ordinary map correction, but the cost of the work was materially increased by the necessity of surveying out new cultivation and laying down lines of traverse.

65. As remarked by the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Low, who has taken much interest in the work, Mr. Lancaster's resource in meeting new conditions and the high standard of accuracy which characterizes his work, have been of much service in putting the land records of the Baihar Tahsil into proper order.

66. *Seoni.*—The completion of the term of settlement in the Seoni District and the inaccurate state of the village maps, which had been allowed to obtain, led to the employment of a special officer for their correction. The services of Mr. J. R. Scott of the Survey of India (retired) were secured and work was started in the Seoni Tahsil of the district. The tahsil includes 741 villages (1,248 square miles and the maps of 729 villages (1,227 square miles) were brought up to date during the year under report. Nineteen villages and parts of villages were entirely re-surveyed. The maps of all inhabited ryotwari villages have been renumbered, as was unavoidable under the new rules, for the management of garden plots in the village site. For the entire area dealt with in map correction the new *khasras* show, in the remarks column, the settlement numbers corresponding to the new numbers and any changes in possession and right which have taken place since settlement. These entries will be useful at re-settlement. The check lines run by the inspecting staff extended to an average of one running mile for every square mile of the area dealt with, while 13 per cent of the *khasra* entries were carefully checked by the supervising staff.

67. The office work included renumbering of the original map sheets to correspond with the field traces and a thorough check of the areas of the fields shown in the khasra. In the end a re-calculation of all areas was taken up and the changes in village areas and the areas held in particular rights have been carefully noted.

68. The cost of the operations of the year amounted to Rs. 11,503 or Rs. 9-6-6 per square mile dealt with.

69. Mr. Scott has maintained his high reputation for personal energy and careful organization.

70. Some change is required in the system of map correction. Recent re-settlements have been preceded by cumbrous map-correction proceedings or have been delayed while maps were brought up to date. This expenditure of money and time would have been avoided had the patwaris brought their maps up to date, but the correction of maps is the last point in which the Land Record Staff becomes efficient. Greater attention is, I believe, yearly paid to the correction of maps, and former neglect was partly due to the weakness of the supervising staff which has, in many districts, been strengthened. But special attention is required until the Patwari staff has acquired the habit of revising its maps, and expert supervision and temporary strengthening of the staff will be required. Proposals to this effect are being worked out. Fluctuating cultivation, however, is a serious difficulty in map-correction. It is recognized in Land Record Circular No. 10, paragraph 5, that these shifting fields cannot be re-surveyed from year to year, but the procedure therein laid down for recording possession and cropping is not carried out and the principle to be followed must be reduced to simple rules which patwaris can understand and cannot evade before success can be attained.

V.—Surveys carried out by the Imperial Survey Department.

71. During the field season of 1905-06 the traverse survey of 86 square miles was performed by the Imperial Survey Department, mostly in the Nimar District. The supplementary topographical survey of 607 square miles in the Narsinghpur District was also completed by the Department.

72. Mandla, Nimar, Balaghat, Seoni, Chanda and Betul are the districts of the Central Provinces in which the waste lands available for allotment on the ryotwari principle are important. In all these districts the quantity of survey numbers allotted substantially exceeded the quantity of survey numbers relinquished,

but there was no marked development during the year. The total area of waste land disforested and thrown open to cultivation up to date amounts to 1,650 square miles. Fourteen square miles (9,200 acres) were disforested during the year under report. An area of 56,651 acres, bearing an assessment of Rs. 13,913, was actually allotted during the year, but 33,115 acres were relinquished. The total allotment up to date now amounts to 724,216 acres with an assessment of Rs. 2,19,380 and $3\frac{1}{2}$ million acres are still available for allotment.

VI.—Preparation for ryotwari survey.

73. Rupees 569 were expended during the year in training surveyors for the regular survey of an extensive ryotwari area in Nimar, now held on plough-rents or unallotted. The training class was under the management of Mr. B. Jagannath, Extra-Assistant Commissioner, and the survey of the villages will be undertaken in the current year.

VII.—Charge of Office of Commissioner of Settlements and Director of Land Records.

74. The office of Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records was held by Mr. Standen up to 26th March, when he proceeded on leave and I succeeded him. Mr. Marshall, Extra-Assistant Commissioner, held the post of Assistant to the Director of Land Records till 5th December when he was relieved by Mr. A. K. Smith, I. C. S. Mr. Standen made a tour to inspect the settlement and map-correction operations in Bilaspur and Raipur and also paid two visits to Berar and made short tours in Damoh and Saugor to examine the state of the settlement. I myself made a tour of inspection in Jubbulpore and Mandla at the end of the field season and paid visits of inspection during the rains to Nimar, Raipur, Bilaspur, Amraoti, Yeotmal and Akola.

VIII.—Supply of Instruments and Stationery.

75. During the year under report the instrument and stationery depôt attached to my office issued instruments and drawing materials to the value of Rs. 15,289 as detailed below :—

	Rs.
To Settlement Department	3,368
To Deputy Commissioners for use of patwaris on land records work ...	11,488
To Feudatory States	289
Otherwise issued	144
Total ...	15,289

The value of forms supplied through the Anjuman Islamia Press, Jubbulpore, amounted to Rs. 33,458 as shown below :—

	Rs.
To Settlement Department	7,014
To Deputy Commissioners for maintenance of village records ...	26,420
Otherwise issued	24
Total ...	33,458

The depôt also arranged as usual for the supply to Deputy Commissioners through the same press of 95,275 tenants' receipt-books valued at Rs. 17,654-1-0. The usual samples from each consignment were compared with the approved standard samples in my own office before payment was made to the press. The stock of instruments and stationery in the depôt was verified by my Assistant under my orders in August 1906, and the accounts thoroughly overhauled.

IX.—Work of the Office of the Settlement Commissioner.

76. I append a table showing the principal reports which were submitted to the Honourable the Chief Commissioner from this office during the year:—

Name of district.	Name of tahsil.	Preliminary or Inception Report.	Rent-rate Reports.		Assessment Reports.		Summary Settlement.		Takoli proposals.	
			Number of reports.	Number of villages.	Number of reports.	Number of villages.	Number of reports.	Number of villages.	Number of reports.	Number of zamindaris.
Chanda	Warora ...	...	...	...	1	43	...	...	...	...
	Chanda ...	...	1	26	4	194	...	...	...	...
	Brahmapuri ...	...	...	...	9	522	...	...	...	...
	Sironcha ...	..	...	...	1	43	...	...	...	..
	Zamindaris ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	20
Mandla	Mandla ...	...	3	177	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Dindori ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Seoni ...	.....	1	...	...	2	2	...	..	...	..
Nagpur ...	.....	...	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...
Raipur ...	Dhamtari ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bilaspur (Khalsa) ...	Mungeli ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sambalpur (Zamindaris)...	.....	...	...	...	3	435	...	319	...	...
Jubbulpore ...	.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Damoh ...	.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	.....	6	4	203	21	1,241	...	319	3	20

77. I am indebted to Mr. A. Sinclair Jones, the Superintendent of this office, for his exertions to bring the office, which was somewhat upset by recent changes, into smooth working order.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. W. E. MONTGOMERIE,

Commissioner of Settlements and Director of Land Records,

Central Provinces.

STATISTICAL TABLES.

LAND RECORDS.

STATEMENT A.—Showing the extent to which village papers were tested.

„ B.—Showing the extent to which punctuality was observed in filing th principal village returns.

„ C.—Showing the progress made in compelling Patwaris to reside within their circles.

SETTLEMENT.

STATEMENT NO. I.—Showing details of Establishment employed on Regular Survey, Map Correction and Settlement.

„ „ II.—Showing the progress made in original Cadastral Survey and preparation of Land Records (Field work).

„ „ III.—Showing the progress made in original Cadastral Survey and preparation of Land Records (Office work).

„ „ IV.—Showing the progress made in Map Correction (Field work).

„ „ V.— Do. do. do. (Office work).

„ „ VI.—Showing the progress made in the regular revision of Land Revenue Assessment (Field work).

„ „ VII.—Showing the progress made in the regular revision of Land Revenue Assessment (Office work).

„ „ VIII.—Showing the expenditure on regular Settlement operations.

„ „ IX.—Showing the progress made in the disposal of the Provincial Programme of Assessment with details of cost-rate per square mile.

„ „ X.—Progress return of the allotment of waste lands.

STATEMENTS.

STATEMENT A.—Showing the extent to which Village Papers were tested and the

Districts.	Total number of villages.	Total of Khasra numbers.	By Revenue Inspectors.			
			Number of villages tested.	Number of entries tested.	Number of entries containing errors in rent, rights or possession.	Percentage of column 6 on column 5.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jubbulpore Division.						
Saugor	2,077	891,472	2,077	150,456	1,252	·83
Damoh	1,396	512,908	1,314	63,030	241	·38
Jubbulpore	2,534	971,239	2,534	109,278	763	·70
Mandla	2,055	732,624	1,974	52,157	493	·94
Seoni (*b*)	(*a*) 901	210,673	901	32,379	513	1·58
Total Jubbulpore Division ...	8,963	3,318,916	8,800	407,300	3,262	·80
Nerbudda Division.						
Narsinghpur	1,104	276,455	1,104	43,105	859	1·99
Hoshangabad	1,390	312,853	1,390	62,337	672	1·08
Nimar	1,063	192,207	1,063	44,131	325	·73
Betul	1,246	306,103	1,239	34,385	526	1·53
Chhindwara ... Khalsa ...	(*c*) 1,427	335,689	1,399	47,869	1,208	2·52
Chhindwara ... Jagirs ...	530	93,781	453	13,951	140	1·00
Total Nerbudda Division ...	6,760	1,517,088	6,648	245,778	3,730	1·52
Nagpur Division.						
Wardha	1,372	160,582	1,372	39,472	662	1·68
Nagpur	2,218	269,498	2,218	62,481	879	1·40
Chanda	3,264	531,220	2,434	67,995	1,076	2·00
Bhandara	1,815	499,068	1,729	58,671	403	·68
Balaghat	(*d*) 1,194	353,261	692	40,318	408	1·01
Total Nagpur Division ...	9,863	1,813,629	8,445	268,937	3,428	1·27
Chhattisgarh Division.						
Drug	2,261	2,261,091	2,064	210,549	2,644	1·25
Raipur	2,719	3,665,746	4,264	302,166	3,419	1·13
Bilaspur	(*e*) 2,950	2,039,202	(*f*) 2,811	200,320	2,653	1·32
Total Chhattisgarh Division ...	7,930	7,966,039	9,139	713,035	8,716	1·22
GRAND TOTAL ...	33,516	14,615,672	33,032	1,635,050	19,136	1·17

Amount of Khasra

(*a*) Includes 135 ryotwari
(*b*) This statement does not
(*c*) This includes 87 ryot
(*d*) Includes nazuls of
(*e*) 254 villages of Chandar-
(*f*) Remaining villages 139

result of such testing during the year ending the 31st May 1906.

testing and result.									
By Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents of Land Records.			By Tahsildars.		By Deputy Commissioners or Assistant Commissioners.		Jamabandi testing of Kanungos.		
Number of Revenue Inspectors' circles visited.	Number of villages tested.	Number of entries tested.	Number of villages tested.	Number of entries tested.	Number of villages tested.	Number of entries tested.	Number of entries tested.	Number found incorrect.	Percentage of incorrect entries on numbers tested.
8		10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
13	472	15,574	170	3,012	57	1,055	98,029	1,221	1·24
6	236	6,679	79	1,868	22	118	55,198	364	·66
13	459	11,901	150	2,899	298	2,651	98,096	2,479	2·53
5	166	3,694	77	542	...	...	47,178	249	·52
4	226	4,274	79	1,596	20	223	28,155	211	·75
41	1,559	42,122	555	9,917	397	4,047	326,656	4,524	1·38
8	545	10,412	182	2,806	122	1,503	25,340	104	·41
12	504	10,767	472	6,353	153	1,968	38,831	283	·73
10	1,038	13,386	557	12,116	68	564	21,551	614	3·00
7	748	13,902	255	3,445	134	1,443	32,993	608	1·84
8	508	15,422	619	5,087	112	1,160	45,127	292	·65
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	3,343	63,889	2,085	29,807	589	6,638	163,842	1,901	1·16
9	658	11,144	504	2,765	84	390	38,462	300	...
12	498	8,386	174	2,779	42	250	30,305	214	·61
11	1,879	14,018	97	2,609	122	959	10,521	314	3·00
9	847	11,679	279	4,501	192	2,367	57,113	724	0·12
5	550	8,657	500	3,084	175	521	29,369	750	2·55
46	4,432	53,884	1,554	15,738	615	4,487	165,770	2,302	1·38
15	518	17,273	373	3,422	215	2,097	173,704	2,037	1·17
30	997	48,472	393	14,327	185	2,714	136,588	1,077	·79
16	1,448	54,455	345	4,868	43	481	76,403	1,239	2·00
61	2,963	120,200	1,111	22,617	443	5,292	386,695	4,353	1·13
193	12,297	280,095	5,305	78,079	2,044	20,464	1,042,963	13,080	1·25

villages.
include the figures of Seoni Tahsil which was under map correction.
wari villages and 46 villages of jagirs are uninhabited.
Balaghat, Balhar and Lanji.
pur Circle are excluded.
were under attestation.

STATEMENT B.—Showing the extent to which punctuality was observed in filing

Division.	Districts.		Milan Khasra.					
			Total number due.	Number filed by date fixed.	Number filed within one month after date.	Number filed within three months after date.	Number filed more than three months after date.	Number unfiled on 30th September.
1	2		3	4	5	6	7	8
Jubbulpore ...	Saugor ...	...	2,077	2,077	...	...	...	...
	Damoh ...	...	1,396	1,396	...	...	...	...
	Jubbulpore ...	...	2,534	2,534	...	...	...	...
	Mandla ...	...	2,055	1,389	...	653	4	9
	Seoni ...	...	(b) 901	901	...	...	...	...
		Total ...	8,963	8,297	...	653	4	9
Nerbudda ...	Narsinghpur ...	...	1,104	1,104	...	...	...	...
	Hoshangabad ...	...	1,390	1,390	...	...	...	...
	Nimar ...	...	1,063	1,063	...	...	...	...
	Betul ...	...	1,239	1,239	...	...	...	...
	Chhindwara ... Khalsa	...	1,427	1,427	...	...	...	...
	Chhindwara ... Jagirs	...	484	484	...	...	...	...
		Total ...	6,707	6,707	...	...	...	...
Nagpur ...	Wardha ...	...	1,372	1,372	...	...	...	...
	Nagpur ...	...	2,218	2,218	...	...	...	...
	Chanda ...	...	3,264	2,831	433	...	...	...
	Bhandara ...	...	1,815	1,798	17	...	...	...
	Balaghat ...	...	(d)1,194	650	129	...	...	415
		Total ...	9,863	8,869	579	...	...	415
Chhattisgarh ...	Drug ...	...	2,261	2,016	26	219	...	...
	Raipur ...	...	(e) 2,719	2,714	5	...	...	...
	Bilaspur ...	...	(f) 2,950	2,950	...	...	...	...
		Total ...	7,930	7,680	31	219	...	...
		Grand total ...	33,463	31,553	610	872	4	424

(a) This number excludes 52 ryotwari villages for which no
(b) This number does not include figures for Seoni Tahsil
(c) The jamabandis of 236 ryotwari villages are not requir
(d) Includes nazul of Balaghat, Baihar and Lanji.
(e) The statement does not include the Dhamtari Tahsil
(f) Excluding Chandarpur.
(g) 682 villages were under attestation, *viz.*—

Kunda	...	70
Lormi	...	128
Sargaon	...	209
Sendra	...	100
Kenda	...	72
Bijo	...	76
Kundar	...	27

the principal Village Returns during the Agricultural Year ending the 31st May 1906.

Jinswar.						Jamabandi of year under report.				
Total number due.	Number filed by date fixed.	Number filed within one month after date.	Number filed within three months after date.	Number filed more than three months after date.	Number unfiled on 30th September.	Total number due.	Number filed by date fixed.	Number filed within one month after date.	Number filed one month after date, but before September 30th.	Number unfiled on 30th September.
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
2,077	2,015	62	...	...	...	2,077	2,069	8	...	...
1,396	1,396	...	...	...	...	(a) 1,344	1,281	63	...	...
2,534	2,534	...	...	...	...	2,534	2,415	119	...	...
2,055	1,062	327	...	657	9	1,467	265	515	325	362
901	901	...	...	...	...	766	766	...	...	...
8,963	7,908	389	...	657	9	8,188	6,796	705	325	362
1,104	1,104	...	...	...	...	1,104	1,101	3	...	...
1,390	1,390	...	...	...	...	1,390	1,390	...	...	...
1,063	1,063	...	...	...	...	(b) 827	815	12	...	...
1,239	1,239	...	...	...	...	1,143	1,139	4	...	...
1,427	1,427	...	...	...	...	1,340	1,340	...	...	...
484	484	...	...	...	...	484	484	...	...	...
6,707	6,707	...	...	...	...	6,288	6,269	19	...	...
1,372	1,372	...	...	...	...	1,372	1,372	...	...	...
2,218	2,218	...	...	...	...	2,218	2,218	...	...	...
3,264	2,850	414	...	...	...	2,917	1,926	228	64	699
1,815	1,782	33	...	...	...	1,815	1,691	116	8	...
(d) 1,194	621	158	...	...	415	(d) 1,194	611	24	115	444
9,863	8,843	605	...	...	415	9,516	7,818	368	187	1,143
2,261	1,940	26	295	...	...	2,261	1,546	104	...	611
2,719	2,442	277	...	...	...	2,719	1,507	1,002	210	...
2,950	2,950	...	...	...	...	(g) 2,268	1,806	428	34	...
7,930	7,332	303	295	...	...	7,248	4,859	1,534	244	611
33,463	30,790	1,297	295	657	424	31,240	25,742	2,626	756	2,116

jamabandis are prepared.
which was under map correction.
ed to be filed.

figures and figures of Baloda Bazar, portion of which was under settlement.

401, Tahsil, Mungeli.

281, Tahsil, Bilaspur.

STATEMENT C.—Showing the progress made in compelling Patwaris to reside within their Circles during the Agricultural Year ending 31st May 1906.

Districts.	Total number of Patwaris.	Number non-resident on 30th September 1905.		Number non-resident on 30th September 1906.		Percentage of Patwaris non-resident without permission.		Remarks.
		With permission.	Without permission.	With permission.	Without permission.	On 30th September 1905.	On 30th September 1906.	
1	2	3		4		5		6
Jubbulpore Division.								
Saugor ...	385	19	22	19	9	6·21	2·34	
Damoh ...	190	9	8	8	15	4·21	7·89	
Jubbulpore ...	403	34	43	35	21	10·67	5·21	
Mandla ...	145	15	9	16	15	6·21	10·34	
Seoni ...	156	9	10	9	10	6·41	6·41	
Total Jubbulpore Division	1,279	86	92	87	70	7·19	5·47	
Nerbudda Division.								
Narsinghpur ...	271	26	...	24	2	...	·74	
Hoshangabad ...	272	2	6	2	8	2 20	2 94	
Nimar ...	244	22	6	22	7	2·46	2 87	
Betul ...	191	6	11	6	4	5·76	2·09	
Chhindwara ...	190	3	20	4	10	10·53	5·26	
Total Nrebudda Division,	1,168	59	43	58	31	3·68	2·65	
Nagpur Division.								
Wardha ...	217	2	...	3	5	...	2 30	
Nagpur ...	270	21	19	24	16	7·04	5·93	
Chanda ...	224	1	41	3	66	21·35	29·00	
Bhandara ...	204	11	8	11	6	3·92	2·94	
Balaghat ...	124	2	7	1	26	5·64	20·96	
Total Nagpur Division ...	1,039	37	75	42	119	7·45	11·45	
Chhattisgarh Division.								
Drug ...	369	1	23	2	26	6 00	7·05	
Raipur ...	555	2	32	2	26	6 00	4·68	
Bilaspur ...	387	1	19	--	34	4·30	8 79	
Total Chhattigarh Division.	1,311	4	74	4	86	5·64	6·56	
GRAND TOTAL ...	4,797	186	284	191	306	6 36	6·38	

(a) This does not include the officiating Patwaris and the Patwaris who have recently been transferred.

STATEMENT No. I.—Showing details of Establishment employed on Regular Survey, Map-correction and Settlement during the year ending the 30th September 1906.

District.		CONTROL.		SUPERVISION.							PATWARIS.		OFFICE.		Remarks.
				SUPERINTENDENTS.		ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENTS.		INSPECTORS.							
		Settlement Officer.	Assistant Settlement Officer.	Land Records.	Settlement.	Land Records.	Settlement.	Permanent.	*Temporary.* 12 months.	*Temporary.* 8 months.	Permanent.	Temporary (Madadgars).	English clerks.	Vernacular clerks.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Mandla ...	Settlement ...	(a) 1	2	(b) 1	...	(c) 1	2	3	(d) 26	(e) 3	45	(f) 21	7	5	
Chanda ...	Settlement ...	1	2	...	...	...	2	2	8	...	74	1	4	4	
Seoni ...	Map-correction ...	...	1	...	1	...	...	4	4	...	81	10	1	3	
Balaghat ...	Map-correction ...	...	1	...	1	1	...	3	2	4	33	...	6	...	
Raipur ...	Original survey ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Map-correction ...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	27	...	...	
	Settlement ...	1	2	...	3	...	3	*3	42	...	79	..	6	5	
Bilaspur (Khalsa.)	Original survey ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52	...	...	
	Map-correction ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Settlement ...	1	2	...	1	...	4	1	20	3	41	...	5	6	
Bilaspur (Zamindari.)	Map-correction ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	
	Settlement ...	1	1	...	1	...	1	...	16	...	24	...	4	5	
Sambalpur ...	Settlement ...	1	3	...	...	1	1	4	18	5	84	(g) 15	6	7	

* Four Permanent Revenue Inspectors of Baloda Bazar were doing map-correction under direct supervision of party officer. Three Permanent Revenue Inspectors of Balod Sanjari were doing annual work under the supervision of Junior Assistant Settlement Officer. In office all were doing Settlement work.

(a) Throughout the year except on privilege leave from 1st to 29th November 1905.

(b) Mr. Jawaharsingh till 10th October 1905. Mr. Kesheo Rao Dixit from 11th October 1905 to 21st July 1906, and Mr. Azmat Ali from 22nd July 1906 to 30th September.

(c) Mr. Azmat Ali till 21st July 1906, Mr. Beniprasad from 22nd July 1906, to 20th September 1906, and Mr. Raja Ram from 21st September 1906 to 30th September 1906.

(d) 22 Inspectors from 1st October 1905, througout the year, three Inspectors transferred from Sambalpur in December 1905, and in May 1906 and in July 1906 of whom the last was given an existing vacancy. One transferred from Nagpur, in December 1905, two Probationary Revenue Inspectors were on attestation work one of whom was appointed Additional Revenue Inspector from 20th July 1906, in place of Rambhaw reduced to Probationary Revenue Inspector and transferred to Raipur District.

(e) Two from 29th March 1906, and one from 22nd March 1906, till the end of June 1906.

(f) From different dates in February and March 1906 to different dates in June 1906.

(g) An average number for six months.

STATEMENT No. II.—Showing the Progress made in Original Cadastral Survey and preparation of Land Record (Field work) during the year ending the 30th September 1906.

Districts.		AREA.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES.		NUMBER OF FIELDS.		AMOUNT OF CHECK.							Remarks.
								KHASRA NUMBERS CHECKED BY				LENGTH OF CHECK LINE RUN		Percentage of fields inspected by check lines.	
								Inspector.		*Superior Officers.*					
		Surveyed.	For which khasra written.	Surveyed.	For which khasra written.	Surveyed.	For which khasra written.	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	By Inspectors.	By Superior Officers.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Chanda ...	Disposed of previously ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Disposed of during the year ...	7,133·73	7,133·73	9	9	464	464	...	...	464	Cent per cent.	...	971·91	42	
	Balance ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	
Balaghat...	Disposed of previously ...	2,957	2,957	4	4	357	357	357	100	102	27	1,850	792	...	
	Disposed of during the year ...	19,319	19,319	20	20	1,028	1,028	1,028	100	166	16	7,854	2,608	...	
	Balance ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Bilaspur Khalsa.	Disposed of during the year ...	1·8 s. q. 69,113	1 8 s. q. 69,113	1	1	186	186	*186	100	40	21	...	...	...	

* A ryotwari village, Siharjor Gharjara, falling due for assessment was surveyed and attested during the year. Survey and attestation were done throughout by the Revenue Inspectors.

STATEMENT No III.—Showing the Progress made in Original Survey and preparation of Land Records (Office work) during the year ending the 30th September 1906.

District.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES.					Remarks.
		Maps inked.	Area calculation passed by Assistant Settlement Officer.	Traces passed and accepted by Superior Officer.	*Records faired and accepted by Superior Officer.*		
					1st copy.	2nd copy.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Chanda ...	Disposed of during the year ...	9	9	...	9	...	
	Balance ...	...	...	...	...	...	
Balaghat ...	Disposed of during the year ...	20	20	60	20	20	
	Balance ...	...	...	...	...	...	
Bilaspur Khalsa ...	Disposed of during the year ...	1	1	1	1	...	The office work in connection with Siharjor Gharjara, a ryotwari village, has been done during the year.

STATEMENT No. IV.—Showing the Progress made in Map-correction (Field work) during the year ending the 30th September 1906.

District.		PROGRESS OF WORK.					AMOUNT OF CHECK.							Remarks.
		Of which maps were corrected in previous year.	Of which maps were corrected during the year under report.		Balance	Area re-surveyed	Khasra Numbers checked by				Length of check lines run.		Per centage of fields inspected by check lines.	
			Corrected by patwaris.	Accepted by Superior Officers after check.			*Inspectors.*		*Superior Officers.*					
							Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.	By Inspectors.	By Superior Officers.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
						Acres.					Chains.	Chains.		
Seoni ...	Number of villages ...	..	729	729	913	(a) 21	46,547	25	23,850	13	82,238	34,998	...	(a) Includes original survey of 2 villages, area 520 acres.
	Area in square miles ...	...	1,227	1,227	1,305	31								
	Number of khasra numbers ...	...	189,474	189,474	212,978	5,058								
Balaghat ...	Number of villages ...	112	111	111	...	96,422	5,185	100	944	18	33,570	11,145	...	
	Area in square miles ...	162	151	151	...	151								
	Number of khasra numbers ...	9,953	5,185	5,185	...	...								
Raipur ...	Number of villages ...	...	98	94	...	15	14,632	8	633	3	17,016	7,425	10	
	Area in square miles ..	...	188	183	...	17								
	Number of khasra numbers ...	...	193,069	189,496	...	...								

STATEMENT No. V.—Showing the Progress made in Map-correction (Office work) during the year ending the 30th September 1906.

District.		NUMBER OF VILLAGES FOR WHICH							Remarks.
		Traces passed and accepted by Superior Officer.	Area calculation completed and accepted by Superior Officer.	Khasra and Jamabandi completed and accepted by Superior Officer.	Compilations of Khasra and Jamabandi prepared and accepted by Superior Officer.	Copies of records prepared and passed (if necessary).	Preliminary traces prepared for next season's field work.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		9
				Khasra. / Jamabandi.	Khasra. / Jamabandi.	Khasra. / Jamabandi.			(a) Exclusive of ryotwari villages for which J forms have been prepared.
Seoni ...	Total to be disposed of ...	729	729	729 / (a) 682	729 / 682	729 / 682	901		
	Disposed of during the year ...	707	729	729 / 682	729 / 682	539 / 509	901		
	Balance ..	22	...	... / ...	... / ...	190 / 173	...		
Balaghat ...	Disposed of during the year ...	333	111	333	333	333	...		
	Balance ...	...	...	...	...	...	...		
Raipur ...	Disposed of during the year ...	41	30	94	16	16	...		
	Balance ...	53	64	...	78	78	...		

STATEMENT No. VI.—Showing the Progress made in the Regular Revision of Land Revenue Assessment (Field work) during the year ending the 30th September 1906.

District.		ATTESTATION.						ANNOUNCEMENT.			Remarks.
		Total to be attested.	Attested in previous years.	During year under report.			Balance to be attested by Inspectors.	Total to be announced.	Announced during the previous year.	Announced during the year under report.	
				Attested by Inspectors.	Passed by Assistant Settlement Officer.	Inspected by Settlement Officer.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mandla ...	Area in square miles ...	3,213	1,641	803	722	719	769	3,213	....	...	(a) Last year 2,057 villages were shown. The difference of one village is due to the reason given below. (See footnotes.)
	Number of villages ...	(a) 2,056	1,080	498	444	457	478	2,056	....	...	
Chanda ...	Area in square miles—										(b) This represents surveyed villages only but includes also villages of Bhatgaon, Bilaigarh and Kotgi Zamindaris of the Raipur District.
	Khalsa ...	2,946	2,946	...	...	35	...	2,946	1,476	1,266	
	Zamindari ...	4,919	4,919	...	...	...	...	4,919	4,264	655	
	Number of villages—										
	Khalsa ...	1,917	1,917	...	...	25	...	1,917	954	764	
	Zamindari ...	1,247	1,247	...	...	...	...	1,247	930	317	
Raipur ...	Area in square miles ..	2,499	923	545	695	849	1,031	2,499	...	...	
	Number of villages ..	1,625	595	378	477	571	652	1,625	...	...	
	Dhamtari Tahsil. Area in square miles	1,233	923	310	555	821	...	1,233	...	...	
	Dhamtari Tahsil. Number of villages.	823	595	228	381	549	...	823	...	...	
	Baloda Bazar Tahsil. Area in square miles	1,266	...	235	140	28	1,031	1,266	...	...	
	Baloda Bazar Tahsil. Number of villages.	802	...	150	96	22	652	802	...	...	
Bilaspur. Zamindari.	Area in square miles ...	2,973	(b) ...	475	417	248	2,498	2,973	...	...	
	Number of villages ..	1,427	...	216	189	144	1,218	1,427	...	...	
Bilaspur. Khalsa ...	Area in square miles ...	2,839	741	303	386	433	1,795	2,839	...	...	
	Number of villages ...	2,014	749	237	301	437	1,028	2,014	...	...	
Sambalpur. Khalsa ...	Area in square miles ...	1,898	1,898	...	...	...	...	815	1,083	516	
	Number of villages ...	1,209	1,209	...	...	...	...	(c) 573	633	(d) 339	
Sambalpur. Zamindari.	Area in square miles ...	1,970	1,970	...	...	...	...	1,970	...	1,416	
	Number of villages ...	1,514	1,514	...	...	...	...	(e) 1,514	...	994	

(c) Sambalpur Tahsil.—

Khalsa ...	...	319=487 S.M.
Chandarpur and Padampur	...	234=299
Malkharoda ...	...	20= 29
Total	...	573=815

(d) Sambalpur.—

Khalsa ...	...	319=487
Malkharoda ..	...	20= 29
Total	...	339=516

(e) Bargarh Tahsil.—

Zamindari ...	...	379=523
Sambalpur Tahsil....		
Zamindari ...	...	338=541
Phuljhar ...	...	201=254
Total	...	918=1,318
Borasambar.—		
Zamindari ...	...	277=352
Phuljhar Zamindari	...	319=300
Total	...	596=652

(1) Naigaon Railway of the Dindori Tahsil ... } Amalgamated into one.
Barga Railway do. ... }

(2) Kikrajhir Railway do. ... } Amalgamated into one.
Ataria do. ... }

(3) A separate mahal has been declared Tikra Githori, a village in the Mandla Tahsil completely isolated by Government forest from the other hamlet of the mahal in which it has hitherto been included.

STATEMENT No. VII.—Showing the Progress made in the Regular Revision of Land Revenue Assessment (Office work) during the year ending the 30th September 1906.

District.		Total to be assessed.	Records completed.	Records fairied and passed.	Records copied for Patwaris.	First trace made.	Second trace made.	Ryotwari abstracts prepared.	Rent-rates submitted.	Assessment report submitted.	Balance. For rent-rates.	Balance. For final assessment.	Miles completed after announcement.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Mandla ...	Area in square miles ...	3,213	719	1,098	736	561	179	418	139	...	2,674	3,213	...	
	Number of villages ..	2,056	457	682	485	418	138	259	104	...	1,687	2,056	...	
Chanda ...	Area in square miles (Malguzari.)	2,946	...	...	...	...	...	39	39	189	...	52	1,217	
	Area in square miles (Zamindari.)	4,919	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	102	
	Number of villages. (Malguzari.)	1,917	...	...	...	...	...	26	26	147	...	*62	735	
	Number of villages. (Zamindari.)	1,247	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26	
Raipur ...	Area in square miles ...	2,499	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Number of villages ...	1,625	459	502	596	360	560	492	329	...	1,296	1,625	...	
Bilaspur Khalsa ...	Area in square miles ...	2,839	648	355	248	633	430	623	...	...	2,839	2,839	...	
	Number of villages ...	2,014	694	462	339	693	...	673	...	...	2,014	2,014	...	
Bilaspur Zamindari ...	Area in square miles ..	2,973	216	133	36	126	85	67	...	...	2,973	2,973	...	
	Number of villages ...	1,427	132	97	51	96	81	71	...	..	1,427	1,427	...	
Sambalpur Khalsa ...	Area in square miles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,599	
	Number of villages ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	972	
Sambalpur Zamindari villages settled regularly.	Area in square miles ...	254	...	...	...	...	183	...	...	493	...	...	1,064	
	Number of villages ...	(a) 201	...	...	...	...	(b) 158	...	...	(c) 319	...	...	717	
Sambalpur Zamindari villages settled summarily.	Area in square miles ...	300	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	300	...	...	352	
	Number of villages ...	319	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	319	...	...	277	

*The villages given in column 13 are of the Lower taluq and have not been assessed owing to the taluq being given to the Madras Government.

	Sq.
(a) Phuljhar regularly.	
(b) Phuljhar do. ...	100=1/4
Kulabira ...	12/128=1/8
(c) Phuljhar regularly.	201=254
Kulabira ...	118=239
	319=493

STATEMENT No. VIII.—Showing the Expenditure on Regular Settlement Operations during the year ending the 30th September 1906.

District.	Establishment.					Travelling Allowance.			Contingencies.						Grand Total Settlement expenditure.	Cost rate of season per sq. mile.	
	Settlement Officer and Assistant Settlement Officers.	Superintendents and Inspectors paid from Settlement Funds.	Clerks.	Servants.	Total.	Settlement Officer and Assistant Settlement Officers.	Subordinates.	Total.	Pay of Chainmen and Madadgars.	Rewards.	Instruments and stationery.	Section-writing.	Miscellaneous.	Total.		For field survey.	For assessment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Mandla ...	20,744	8,859	4,234	576	34,713	2,395	748	3,143	2,833	435	6	2,132	5,218	11,624	(a)49,481	...	(b) 57
Chanda ...	14,112	3,918	2,328	749	21,106	1,861	268	2,129	1,273	...	...	...	4,970	6,243	29,478	...	...
Seoni ...	3,350	2,140	995	279	6,764	654	305	959	772	...	395	781	1,832	3,780	11,503	9	..
Balaghat ...	6,000	2,045	624	276	8,945	532	197	729	353	200	78	10	1,256	1,897	11,571	68	...
Raipur ...	20,105	13,539	3,405	850	37,899	1,813	894	2,707	4,860	542	69	5,429	4,757	15,657	56,263	...	...
Bilaspur Khalsa ...	16,000	11,986	3,064	810	31,860	2,352	948	3,455	1,543	495	221	2,540	5,461	10,259	45,574	...	...
Bilaspur Zamindari ...	8,420	4,236	1,346	364	14,366	1,418	561	1,979	1,292	...	685	102	5,430	7,509	23,854	...	50
Sambalpur ...	12,420	5,312	2,923	796	22,450	1,271	252	1,523	528	700	586	124	4,430	6,367	29,340	...	34

(a) Includes Rs. 3,984 on account of pay of Assistant Commissioners under Settlement training.
" 87 do. travelling allowance of Assistant Commissioners under Settlement training.
Total Rs. ... 4,071

(b) On the area attested by Inspectors.

STATEMENT No. IX.—Showing the Progress made in the disposal of the Provincial Programme of Assessment with details of cost per square mile.

District.	Total area for assessment.	Original Survey.			First round of assessment.			Map-correction.					Second round of assessment.					Remarks.
		Area completed.	Expenditure.	Cost rate per square mile.	Area completed.	Expenditure.	Cost rate per square mile.	Area completed.	Expenditure.	Cost rate per square mile.	Balance.	Estimated cost rate per square mile when completed.	Area completed.	Expenditure.	Cost rate per square mile.	Balance.	Estimated cost rate per square mile when completed.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Sq. mile.	Sq. mile.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Sq. mile.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Sq. mile.	Rs.	Rs. a. p.	Sq. mile.	Rs. a. p.	Sq. mile.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Sq. mile.	Rs. a. p.	
Mandla ...	3,213	3,230	1,10,962	34 5 8	2,053	46,872 0 0	22 13 4	3,199	33,409	10 7 1	...	10 7 1	...	...	...	...	...	
Chanda ...	7,874	4,539	1,75,516	38 10 8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,710	3,91,935 0 0	50 13 4	164	50 7 0	
Raipur ...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56,262 14 7	...	...	...	
Bilaspur Khalsa ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45,373 9 7	...	...	...	
Bilaspur Zamindari.	2,973	...	...	...	...	23,853 9 4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	

STATEMENT X.—Statement showing the progress made in the allotment of waste land during the year ending the 30th September 1906.

District.	Total number of survey numbers, area and assessment in ryotwari tract.			Previously allotted from commencement of Settlement to end of previous year.			Available for allotment at commencement of year under report.			Allotted during the year under report.			Relinquished during the year under report.			Balance for allotment at end of year under report.		
	Number of survey numbers.	Area.	Assessment.	Number of survey numbers.	Area.	Assessment.	Number of survey numbers.	Area.	Assessment.	Number of survey numbers.	Area.	Assessment.	Number of survey numbers.	Area.	Assessment.	Number of survey numbers.	Area.	Assessment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		Acres.	Rs. a. p.		Acres.	Rs. a. p.		Acres.	Rs. a. p.		Acres.	Rs. a. p.		Acres.	Rs. a. p.		Acres.	Rs. a. p.
Damoh ...	1,619	16,885	8,604 13 6	940	8,510	4,670 6 10	679	8,375	3,934 6 8	75	598	390 14 6	33	470	256 7 0	637	8,247	3,799 15 2
Mandla ...	94,012	364,517	1,13,018 0 0	40,449	166,771	50,545 0 0	53,563	197,746	62,473 0 0	4,015	18,094	4,784 0 0	3,220	12,608	3,075 0 0	52,768	192,250	60,764 0 0
Seoni (*a*) ...	9,907	77,174	23,699 6 0	7,820	57,917	19,941 11 0	2,087	19,257	3,757 11 0	315	2,709	622 6 0	16	248	53 12 0	1,788	16,796	3,189 1 0
Hoshangabad (*b*).	1,498	20,767	6,633 10 0	1,162	13,833	5,263 0 0	336	6,934	1,370 10 0	94	1,838	362 9 0	20	327	94 6 0	262	5,423	1,102 7 0
Nimar (*c*) ...	19,167	278,556	95,566 13 0	17,107	245,797	89,730 7 0	2,060	32,759	5,836 6 0	1,276	19,489	4,931 6 3	740	11,319	3,188 14 0	1,524	24,589	4,093 13 9
Betul (*d*) ...	6,155	65,188	10,078 12 0	4,804	47,664	7,953 1 0	1,351	17,524	2,125 11 0	270	3,805	549 10 0	78	972	168 12 0	1,159	14,691	1,744 13 0
Chhindwara ...	2,307	29,070	5,615 6 0	1,998	26,484	5,370 10 0	309	2,586	244 12 0	58	904	79 5 0	7	100	53 12 0	258	1,782	219 3 0
Nagpur ...	137	2,055	1,385 0 0	135	2,038	1,376 8 0	2	17	8 8 0	2	17	8 8 0	7	83	29 0 0	7	83	29 0 0
Chanda (*e*) ...	6,539	34,699	10,546 10 9	4,506	22,440	6,668 15 3	2,033	12,259	3,877 11 6	79	1,650	621 0 0	51	650	216 9 0	2,005	11,259	3,473 4 6
Balaghat ...	16,721	166,923	33,855 0 0	12,624	109,226	22,366 0 0	4,097	57,697	11,489 0 0	652	7,547	1,563 0 0	541	6,338	1,283 0 0	3,986	56,488	11,209 0 0
Total ...	158,062	1,055,834	3,09,003 7 3	91,545	700,680	2,13,885 11 1	66,517	355,154	95,117 12 2	6,836	56,651	13,912 10 9	4,713	33,115	8,419 8 0	64,394	331,618	89,624 9 5

(*a*) The differeace as compared with the previous year's figures is due to addition of excised areas.

(*b*) Do. do. to the transfer of 14 villages in the Sohagpur Tahsil to the Forest Department.

(*c*) Do. do. to the transfer of survey numbers from Lalbag garden and Minhai to Ryotwari Settlement.

(*d*) Do. do. to the transfer of survey numbers to the Forest Deparetmnt.

REPORT

ON THE

OPERATIONS OF THE LAND RECORDS AND SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENTS

IN THE

CENTRAL PROVINCES

DURING THE YEAR

1910-11

133969

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No. 761.

FROM

E. R. K. BLENKINSOP, ESQ., C. I. E., I. C. S.,

COMMISSIONER OF SETTLEMENTS AND DIRECTOR OF LAND RECORDS,

Central Provinces,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER, LAND RECORDS DEPARTMENT,

Central Provinces.

Nagpur, the 12th February 1912.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the operations of the Departments of Land Records and Settlements for the year ending 30th September 1911.

PART I.—OPERATIONS OF THE LAND RECORDS DEPARTMENT.

I.—LAND RECORDS ESTABLISHMENT.

Revision of Establishment.

2. One hundred candidate patwaris on Rs. 10 per mensem were appointed; the scale allotted to each district ranging from 3 to 11 according to its size. They are being trained with map correction parties in Saugor, Nagpur and Nimar, and when trained will be available to fill temporary vacancies.

Measures taken to improve the prospects of the staff.

3. The pay of patwaris in seven districts was raised to a minimum of Rs. 10 per mensem with effect from 1st April 1911; in six other districts this is already the minimum pay; and the other five districts will be dealt with in due course. The system of annual rewards for patwaris was abolished, and a system of good conduct allowances was commenced, whereby 10 per cent of the patwaris will receive Rs. 2 per mensem and 10 per cent will receive Rs. 3. The good conduct allowances at Rs. 2 were granted in full, with effect from 1st April 1911, the recipients being selected by Deputy Commissioners.

With effect from the close of the year, Assistant Superintendents of Land Records were divided into three grades, the rate of pay being raised from Rs. 50 to Rs. 60, Rs. 70 and Rs. 80, and their travelling allowance was increased to Re. 1 per diem. All Revenue Inspectors received horse allowance of Rs. 10 per mensem; as a consequence their field allowances were changed into good conduct allowances.

II.—LAND RECORDS WORK.

Changes in the system of Land Records.

4. There have been no changes in the system of Land Records.

Condition of village maps including renewal of traces.

5. Traces in Nagpur and Nimar for 955 and 583 villages, respectively, were renewed, in preparation for Settlement. Traces of 334 villages were renewed in Seoni, where the matter required particular attention. The district reports show that renewal of traces received adequate attention everywhere.

Maps are in a satisfactory condition.

Condition of village boundary marks, permanent marks for traverse stations and boundary marks of survey numbers in ryotwari villages.

6. Map correction in the Nagpur District brought to notice serious neglect of survey marks. Necessary action is being taken and the point is being more closely checked in other districts.

Testing of village papers.

7. Check by the Land Record staff was adequate. The percentage of error detected was 1·29 against 1·15 last year. Check by Deputy Commissioners and their staffs was also satisfactory, considering the pressing claims of Census on their time.

Check of jamabandis by Kanungos.

Where regular Land Record work was in progress, Kanungos, with two exceptions, checked the prescribed quantity of entries in jamabandis. The percentage of error discovered was the same as last year (·98 as against ·96).

Degree of punctuality observed in filing village papers.

8. A few milan khasra and jinswar in Chanda and Bhandara, and some jamabandis in Balaghat, were filed more than a month late. Otherwise, where not interfered with by Settlement operations, the filing of papers was done by the prescribed date or shortly after.

Condition of Kanungos' offices—Inspection by officers.

9. Inspection of Kanungos' offices was adequate. They are in good condition.

Issue of sanads for agricultural improvements.

10. 519 sanads for agricultural improvements were issued as against 646 last year.

III.—Conduct of Land Records Staff.

Residence of patwaris within their circles.

11. The number of patwaris who had Divisional Commissioner's sanction to reside outside their circles was 179 as against 170 last year. The number residing outside their circles without permission was 307 as against 355 last year. From district reports it is clear that due vigilance is being exercised in this matter.

Training of patwaris.

12. Classes for candidates and patwaris were opened and examinations were held in survey and patwari rules in all districts except one, where there are sufficient trained candidates; the number of those who passed is about the same as last year. The improvements effected in the emoluments of patwaris have made it easier to obtain suitable candidates. The candidate patwaris referred to in paragraph 2 were, on appointment, posted for training to the Assistant Settlement Officer on map correction in Saugor, Nagpur and Nimar. 37 were trained and the remainder will be trained in the current year.

Conduct and discipline of patwaris.

13. The following figures show the disciplinary measures taken against patwaris in the year under report as compared with the previous year :—

	1909-10.	1910-11.
Dismissals	111	72
Reductions	29	50
Fines	1,121	1,139
Suspensions	77	78
Transfers	60	95
Total ...	1,398	1,434

Fines amounted to Rs. 3,749 against Rs. 4,124 last year. With regard to the insufficient remuneration and unwieldy patwari circles in the Chanda District referred to in last year's report, certain temporary establishment was added to the staff during the year. The Deputy Commissioner says that for the present this is sufficient for purposes of control and has deferred the revision of the halkabandi.

Revenue Inspectors, their qualifications, conduct and discipline.

14. Punishments of Revenue Inspectors were few during the year and their work was satisfactory. The Deputy Commissioner, Seoni, considers that a stronger and more efficient staff of Inspectors is needed to remove the inefficiency of the staff brought to notice last year. Steps will be taken to remedy matters in due course.

Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents of Land Records.

15. Two misappropriations occurred in the Raipur and Seoni Land Records Offices, the clerk in the latter district having been transferred from the Raipur Office. A change has now been made in Land Record Office procedure. Both clerks were dismissed and the Seoni clerk was convicted and punished. In this connection, the first Superintendent of Land Records, Raipur, was under suspension for seven months.

16. The Land Record staff throughout the Province, except in the Arvi Tahsil of Wardha, was employed on Census and rendered invaluable assistance.

IV.—Utilization of Land Records.

Circle Note-books and Village Note-books.

17. Circle Note-books were filled in up to date in all districts except two, where some villages remain to be written up. Village Note-books are mostly complete and in good condition.

PART II.—OPERATIONS OF THE SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT.

18. *General.*—The following operations were conducted during the year ending 30th September 1911 :—

(i) Revision of Settlement in malguzari villages in Jubbulpore, Damoh, Saugor, Wardha, Raipur, Drug and Bilaspur.

(ii) Revision of Settlement in Zamindari Estates in the Bilaspur District.

(iii) Ryotwari Settlement in Balaghat.

(iv) Reimposition of rents in 142 villages of the Saugor District, where recovery appeared to be intentionally retarded.

(v) Correction of maps and records preparatory to Settlement in the Saugor, Nimar and Nagpur Districts.

19. The orders of the Government of India were received during the year on the Forecast Reports for the re-settlement of the Nimar and Saugor Districts. Proposals for the inception of Settlement operations in the Nagpur District were also submitted towards the close of the year and the orders of the Government of India thereon are awaited. Meanwhile an officer has been placed on special duty in connection with the operations.

The orders of the Government of India fixing the term of Settlement in the Wardha District are awaited.

Mr. Dewar's final report on the Settlement of the portion of the Sambalpur District retained in the Central Provinces is still awaited. It will probably be submitted by him in March next. The Mandla and Raipur reports have been received and are in the Press. At the time of writing, the Settlements of Raipur Drug, Bilaspur, Bilaspur Zamindaris, Jubbulpore, Wardha and Damoh are all complete or practically complete.

I.—THE REVENUE SETTLEMENT OF MALGUZARI VILLAGES.

20. *Jubbulpore.*—The chief operations during the year were—

Mr. A. E. Mathias, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Rao Sahib S. R. Pandit and Messrs. Channulal, Behari Lal Nema and Parthasarthi Naidu, Assistant Settlement Officers.
Madho Martand, Settlement Superintendent.

(i) Announcement of the Sihora Tahsil consisting of 779 villages.

(ii) Inspection of the two Bargi groups and a portion of the Baghraji group consisting of 243 villages in all.

(iii) Rent-rating of 10 groups consisting of 1,156 villages.

(iv) Assessment of the Jubbulpore and Patan Tahsils consisting of 1,156 villages.

21. Inspection was completed during the year. Although office work was somewhat hampered by the absence of patwaris on Census duty, the bulk of the fairing of records and preparation of traces relating to the Jubbulpore and Patan Tahsils was finished. The announced misls of the Sihora Tahsil were also completed and filed in the District Office.

22. The orders of the Administration have been received on all 10 Assessment Reports submitted during the year. The assessment of the Jubbulpore and Patan Tahsils was fully completed during the year, announcement will practically be completed by the end of the calendar year and Settlement operations will be entirely finished by the end of March 1912.

23. The Settlement Officer specially mentions the names of Rao Sahib S. R. Pandit, Senior Assistant Settlement Officer, who has been awarded the title of Rao Sahib, Mr. Channulal and Mr. Madho Martand. Though without previous experience, Mr. Mathias displayed very sound judgment in rent rating, rent fixation and assessment, of which the first two presented special difficulties in this District.

24. *Damoh.*—The attestation of the district, which was somewhat delayed by Census work, was completed. The party officers were two Assistant Settlement officers and one Settlement Superintendent each assisted by ten Inspectors. The Settlement Officer inspected 644 villages and has completed the remaining 103 villages since the close of the year.

Mr. C. G. C. Trench, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. Ramkrishna Khando Indurkar, Chhagan Lal and Abdul Majid, Assistant Settlement Officers.
Shankarnath, Settlement Superintendent.

25. Announcement of five groups of the Hatta Tahsil consisting of 323 villages was completed by January last.

26. Rent-rate Reports of nine groups consisting of 625 villages were submitted and orders of the Administration were received on all of them. Assessment Reports for seven of these groups were submitted by the close of the year.

27. Work in the office season was hampered by sickness among patwaris, especially guinea-worm which is common in Damoh on account of the bad water-supply. New sheets have been prepared for 570 villages leaving a balance of 178.

28. The whole staff worked hard and well and succeeded in bringing the field work to a close in time. The Senior Assistant Settlement Officer, Mr. Indurkar, maintained a good standard of accuracy in ryotwari and other work and made announcements in over 300 villages, where the tenantry are mostly captious Lodhis, without friction. The Junior Assistant Settlement Officer, Mr. Chhagan Lal, was as usual most painstaking and improved in judgment. Mr. Shankarnath, Settlement Superintendent, is very promising. Mr. Trench put in a very good year's work, and exercised sound discretion in the fixation of rents, a task which was much complicated by the famine abatements.

29. *Saugor.*—The district was not notified under Settlement till the 21st July 1911.

Mr. G. L. Corbett, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. A. D. P. Lancaster, Lakshman Rao, Saiyid Azmat Ali, D. V. Kane, Assistant Settlement Officers.
Ramcharan Sinha, Settlement Superintendent.

At the outset Mr. Corbett was engaged in finishing off re-imposition, and owing to Settlements being in progress in so many other districts, a full staff could not at once be sent to Saugor. Map correction was in progress just ahead of the attestation parties, and for six valuable weeks of the cold weather all Settlement work was seriously interfered with by the claims of Census. By March, however, a full staff (~~Mr. Lakshman Rao was trained in Hoshangabad~~) of 41 attesting Inspectors, 3 Assistant Settlement Officers and a Settlement Superintendent were at work. 642 villages were dealt with by Inspectors, but only 371 villages were dealt with by Assistant Settlement Officers. Two of them had had but little experience and could not be placed in independent charge for some time, and one of these, Mr. Kane, did not join till the middle of January. The brunt of the work fell on Mr. Lakshman Rao, who displayed his usual energy, and attested most of the completed villages; Mr. Azmat Ali promises well and Mr. Kane is hard working.

30. *Wardha.*—Attestation in 486 villages of the Arvi Tahsil, covering an area of 717 square miles, was completed and inspected by the Settlement Officer. The whole of the Wardha Tahsil (excluding 70 villages of Nachangaon group) and four groups of Hinganghat Tahsil were announced. Rent-rate Reports for 12 groups consisting of 725 villages were submitted during the year and Assessment Reports for nine groups. Shortly after the close of the year the whole of the assessment work was completed and announcement finished off in Wardha and Hinganghat. Mr. Smith has done a very heavy year's work, comprising the field inspection of the Arvi tahsil and the Nachangaon group and the rent-rating and assessment mentioned above. His rent proposing was at times a little erratic, but this was in no way due to haste in his work, which was characterized by care and patience. Mr. Chhotelal Verma shows good promise.

Mr. A. K. Smith, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. Chhotelal Bhat, Lakshman Abba, Chotelal Verma, and Muhammad Zaki, Assistant Settlement Officers.
Wasudeo Anant Fuley, Settlement Superintendent.

Mr. H. E. Hemingway, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. Saiyid Mir Padshah, C. Anthony and Abdul Quaiyum, Assistant Settlement Officers.
Ramanand, Settlement Superintendent.

31. *Raipur.*—Announcement of revised rents and revenue of 293 villages covering an area of 500 square miles was completed, besides announcement of 6 ryotwari villages covering an area of 8 square miles.

32. The survey and attestation work of 20 ryotwari villages and attestation of 6 summary settled plots was taken in hand and completed by the end of June 1911.

33. The Final Settlement Report of the Raipur district was submitted by Mr. Hemingway, in October 1911, before he proceeded on leave. It is now in the press.

34. *Drug.*—Attestation of 312 villages in the Sanjari-Balod tahsil, covering an area of 465 square miles, was completed by March 1911. Rent-rate Reports for five groups with 400 villages were submitted and orders passed by the Administration thereon were duly communicated. Assessment Reports for 14 groups with 1,035 villages were also received.

35. Revised revenue and rents of 831 villages in the Bemetara and Drug tahsils, covering an area of 1,548 square miles, were announced by the end of September 1911.

36. Owing to the energy and perseverance of Mr. Mir Padshah, Senior Assistant Settlement Officer, the revised rents and revenues have been promptly announced and the amount of work disposed of by him during the last two years has been quite extraordinary. Mr. Anthony, Assistant Settlement Officer,

did well and was selected for the Settlement of two Zamindaris under the Court of Wards, where his work has been favourably reported on. Mr. Abdul Quaiyum, Assistant Settlement Officer's field work has not always been of the best, but in office he has done extremely well. Mr. Hemingway continued to display untiring energy, despatch and good judgment. The cost of the Drug Settlement will be unusually small, owing to the rapidity with which the work has been carried through.

Mr. J. E. Hance, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. Bakshiram Jagannath, Ravi Shankar, Ramanuj Prasad, Sankata Prasad and Daji Kashirath, Assistant Settlement Officers.

37. *Bilaspur Khalsa*—Attestation work was finished last year. Fifteen villages near about Janjgir and one isolated village in the Zamindari which remained to be inspected by the Settlement Officer last year were inspected by him during the year under report.

38. Rent-rate Reports for five groups of Janjgir tahsil, numbering 507 villages with an area of 939 square miles, were submitted and orders passed by the Administration thereon were duly communicated. Assessment Reports for 9 groups in the Bilaspur and Janjgir tahsils, numbering 859 villages in all with an area of about 1,500 square miles, were submitted and orders of the Administration thereon were also communicated.

39. The assessment work of the district was thus finally completed.

40. Rents and revenue were also announced in 731 villages covering an area of 1,271 square miles. The remaining 391 villages have since been announced. Of the staff Messrs. B. Jagannath and Ramanuj Prasad rendered the best services. Mr. Hance's work was characterized by his usual patience, thoroughness, and good judgment, and when once the lines were settled, his assessment work could practically be accepted blind-fold.

II.—Survey and Assessment of Zamindari Estates.

Mr. C. U. Wills, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. Chunilal and Chhotelal, Assistant Settlement Officers.

41. *Bilaspur.*—Revised rents and revenue were announced in 6 Zamindaris, namely, Pendra, Korba, Champa, Lapha, Chhuri and Uprora, comprising 611 villages in all.

42. Assessment Reports for 4 Zamindaris, namely, Chhuri, Lapha, Uprora and Matin, comprising 297 villages in all, were submitted and the orders by the Administration were duly communicated. Protected status proceedings were submitted in Chhuri, Champa, Korba and Uprora Zamindaris and the orders passed by the Administration were communicated.

43. The question of laying down the boundary between the Zamindaris and the Sakti and other Feudatory States has been taken up under the orders contained in the Secretariat, Political and Military Department, letter No. 531—III-19-3, dated the 13th July 1911.

44. Mr. Wills, Settlement Officer, left Bilaspur in the beginning of March 1911, when Mr. Chunni Lal, Assistant Settlement Officer, was placed in charge till the 2nd August, on which date the latter proceeded on leave making over charge to Mr. Chhote Lal, Assistant Settlement Officer.

45. Both Assistant Settlement Officers continued to do good work. Mr. Wills, though employed on other duties, continued to exercise close and careful supervision over the winding up operations.

III.—Ryotwari Settlement.

Mr. F. Dewar, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.

46. *Balaghat.*—In accordance with the orders of the Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner revision of enhanced assessments in 145 villages (covering an area of 239 square miles) out of 235 villages was undertaken and the assessment reduced from Rs. 37,302 to Rs. 35,546.

47. Sanads for improvement in the case of big works, costing more than Rs. 200, were distributed to the tenants.

The submission of the Final Report has been delayed by press of Mr. Dewar's regular duties.

IV.—Re-imposition of abated rents and Revenues.

48. *Saugor.*—Re-imposition proceedings were carried out by the Settlement Officer, Saugor, after personal inspection, in 142 villages scattered over three tahsils where recovery appeared to be intentionally retarded. The rents and revenue reimposed in the preceding year were also announced.

V.—Correction of Maps and Records preparatory to Settlement.

49. *Saugor.*—468 villages remaining over from the previous year in the Rehli tahsil were completed, as also the whole of the Banda tahsil and half the Saugor tahsil; total 994 villages, area 1,573 square miles. Mr. Lancaster, together with his assistants Messrs. Bahadur Ali and Hanuman Sahai, Settlement Superintendents, are to be congratulated on a heavy year's work carried through in spite of considerable interference caused by the staff being required for Census.

50. *Nagpur.*—The programme of work was the completion of the whole of the Nagpur tahsil and half of the Ramtek tahsil. The maps of all 492 villages in the former tahsil with an area of 812 square miles and of 220 out of 444 villages in the latter tahsil were completed. Mr. Sinclair Jones though hampered by Census, and many other demands on the time of his men, *e. g.*, for Land Acquisition and by the Civil and Revenue Courts, which taken together absorbed 11,949 out of 23,678 day units, has done very well. He expresses his thanks to the Deputy Commissioner for curtailing unnecessary demands on his staff.

51. *Nimar.*—The programme consisted of the completion of the Harsud tahsil, 157 villages covering an area of 391 square miles, and of 576 villages covering an area of 1,242 square miles in the Khandwa tahsil. Owing to the dislocation caused by patwaris being employed on Census work and by an outbreak of plague at Khandwa, which necessitated the removal of the map correction office to Burhanpur, 98 villages in the Khandwa tahsil could not be completed. The work was supervised by the Superintendent of Land Records under the general direction of Mr. C. H. G. Johnson, Assistant Settlement Officer, Traverse Survey.

52. *General.*—Mr. Hullah, as Deputy Commissioner, Nagpur, raised the question of the necessity of map correction in the long settled open country of Nagpur, and has now raised the same question for Narsinghpur. When he raised the question for Nagpur, I called for a report showing the extent of serious error discovered during last season's work. The amount of substantial error is far greater than I had expected from my own observation, and there has also been considerable extension of cultivation in the Nagpur district. Most of the villages have had to be renumbered and there is not time for work of this kind at attestation. I am of opinion that while there is a good deal in Mr. Hullah's contention, we cannot yet dispense altogether with map correction, though where the work proves well, I have greatly reduced the amount of check applied. If patwaris carried out their annual check thoroughly and kept their maps up to date, there should be very little to do, but for various reasons they do not do this. Apart from laziness and imperfect training, the chief obstacle is the refusal of the people to turn out to render the necessary assistance. In connection with this inquiry Mr. Jones collated figures for the condition of survey marks in the tracts in which he was operating. Now this is a matter in which the Land Record Staff would not overstate neglect, because it is part of their duty to prevent such neglect. Out of 17,042 marks 4,879 were reported

incorrect or missing. I am taking up this question for Nagpur and all other districts, but it is pretty clear that, if this is the condition of the survey marks, survey and map correction must also be much neglected.

VI.—Surveys carried out.

53. One computer has been added to the traverse survey party which now consists of 7 traversers and 6 computers. Traverse work was carried out during the year in the Raipur, Chanda, Bilaspur, Drug, Damoh and Nagpur districts and 233 villages in all were traversed. The assistance of the staff was also sought in connection with certain boundary disputes in Bilaspur, Drug and Chhindwara. The work was satisfactory, especially considering that it is very scattered, and in difficult and unhealthy country. The health of one traverser gave way altogether, and another man had to be dismissed.

VII.—Charge of the Office of Commissioner of Settlements and Director of Land Records, Central Provinces.

54. The office of Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records was held by me throughout the year and the post of Assistant to the Director of Land Records by Mr. S. Waterston, I. C. S. Mr. H. E. Hemingway, I. C. S., was placed on special duty in this office from 4th August till the 25th October 1911 when he proceeded on leave.

VIII.—Supply of Instruments and Stationery.

55. During the year the instruments and stationery depôt attached to my office issued instruments and drawing materials to the value of Rs. 15,671 as detailed below:—

	Rs.
To Settlement Department	8,445
To Deputy Commissioners for use of Patwaris and Land Record Work.	5,089
To Feudatory States	165
Otherwise issued, including Berar	1,972
Total ...	15,671

The value of forms supplied through the Anjuman Islamia Press, Jubbulpore, amounted to Rs. 30,535 as shown below:—

	Rs.
To Settlement Department	12,056
To Deputy Commissioners for maintenance of village records ...	18,479
Total ...	30,535

The depôt also arranged as usual for the supply to Deputy Commissioners through the same press of 102,383 tenants' receipt books valued at Rs. 19,196-13-0.

IX.—Work of the Office of the Settlement Commissioner.

56. I append a table showing the principal reports which were submitted to the Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner during the year :—

Name of District.	Name of Tahsil.	Inception Reports.	Preliminary Tahsil Reports.	Rent-rate Reports.		Assessment Reports.		
				No. of reports.	No. of villages.	No. of reports.	No. of villages.	
	Malguzari Villages.							
Damoh ...	Hatta ...	...	...	2	162	4	292	
	Damoh ...	...	...	*6	385	...	...	
Jubbulpore ...	Jubbulpore ...	...	...	7	767	1	103	
	Patan ...	...	...	3	*389	3	389	
	Sihora ...	...	...	...	...	1	202	
Nimar ...		1	...	...	...	...	...	
Wardha ...	Hinganghat ...	..	...	3	168	1	50	
	Wardha ...	...	...	1	70	5	334	
	Arvi ...	...	...	8	487	...	...	
Nagpur ...		1	...	...	...	...	...	
Raipur ...	Dhamtari ...	...	...	...	...	*1	4	* Combined Rent-rate and Assessment.
	Mahasamund ...	...	...	...	...		2	
Drug ...	Sanjari ...	..	1	4	310	3	201	
	Thema ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	
	Bemetara ...	...	...	...	...	4	313	
	Drug ...	...	†1	1	90	7	521	† Final Tahsil Report.
Bilaspur Khalsa...	Bilaspur ...	...	...	...	...	5	419	
	Janjgir ...	...	...	5	506	4	408	
Bilaspur Zamindaris.	Zamindaris ...	...	...	...	...	4	297	
	Ryotwari Villages.							
Jubbulpore ...	Jubbulpore ...	...	...	...	3	...	...	
Raipur ...	Dhamtari ...	...	...	...	...	‡1	15	‡ Combined Rent-rate and Assessment Report.
	Mahasamund ...	...	...	...	...	‡1	5	
Drug ...	Drug ...	...	...	...	...	‡1	1	
Bilaspur ...	Bilaspur ...	...	...	...	...	1	2	
	Janjgir ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	
	Total ...	3	2	40	3,338	47	3,558	

Bansidhar Sharma, Settlement Clerk, has had another very heavy year and has acquitted himself well.

The submission of this report has been delayed by the very late submission of the report on Map Correction from Nimar.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

E. R. K. BLENKINSOP,

Commissioner of Settlements and Director of Land Records.

STATEMENT No. I.—Showing the progress made in Original Cadastral Survey and Preparation of Land Records during the year ending the 30th September 1911.

District.	Field work.				Office work.				Remarks.
	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	
Bilaspur Zamindari ...	73	73	...	...	73	73	...	...	

STATEMENT No. II.—Showing the progress made in Map Correction during the year ending the 30th September 1911.

District.	Field work.				Office work.				Remarks.
	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	
Saugor ...	3,180	301	1,573	1,306	3,180	301	1,573	1,306	
Nagpur ...	*1,421	...	1,056	365	1,421	...	1,056	365	* Nagpur and Ramtek Tahsils.
Nimar ...	†1,972	300	1,363	309	1,972	300	1,363	309	† Harsud and Khandwa Tahsils.

STATEMENT No. III.—Showing the progress made in the Regular Revision of Land Record Assessment (Field work) during the year ending the 30th September 1911.

District.		Attestation.						Announcement.			Remarks.
		Total to be attested.	Attested in previous years.	During year under report.			Balance to be attested by Inspectors.	Total to be announced.	Announced during the previous year.	Announced during the year under report.	
				Attested by Inspectors.	Passed by Assistant Superior Officer.	Inspected by Superior Officer.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Damoh	Area in square miles ...	1,971	1,196	775	828	905	...	1,971	...	471	
	Number of villages ...	1,396	814	582	622	644	...	1,396	...	323	
Jubbulpore	Area in square miles ...	3,564	3,564	...	...	...	...	3,564	1,057	1,105	
	Number of villages ...	2,534	2,534	...	...	...	...	2,534	571	799	
Saugor	Area in square miles ...	3,180	...	844	457	319	2,336	3,180	...	...	
	Number of villages ...	2,079	...	642	371	244	1,437	2,079	...	...	
Wardha	Area in square miles ..	717	1,503	717	717	845	...	2,220	...	1,176	
	Number of villages ...	486	879	486	486	556	...	1,365	...	691	
Balaghat	Area in square miles ...	...	..	...	...	...	...	360	360	...	
	Number of villages ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	253	252	1 (a)	(a) Ryotwari village Pondi which was restored to Government Forest has been returned to Revenue Department. Its area is less than one square mile.
Drug	Area in square miles ...	2,232	1,767	465	465	465	...	2,232	219	1 548	
	Number of villages ...	1,299	987	312	312	312	...	1,299	156	831	
Raipur	Area in square miles. Malguzari ..	3,503	3,503	...	...	...	...	3,503	3,003	500	
	Area in square miles. Ryotwari ...	21	8	13	13	13	..	21	...	8	
	Area in square miles. Summarily settled	10	...	10	10	10	...	10	...	...	
	Number of villages. Malguzari ..	2,065	2,065	...	...	..	...	2,065	1,772	293	
	Number of villages. Ryotwari ...	26	6	20	20	20	...	26	...	6	
	Number of villages. Summarily settled	6	...	6	6	6	...	6	...	...	
Bilaspur Khalsa	Area in square miles ..	2,847	2,847	...	..	42	..	2,847	908	1,271	
	Number of villages .	2,002 (b)	2,002	...	...	16	...	2,002	876	731	(b) Includes 5 waste land villages.
Bilaspur Zamindari ...	Area in square miles ...	3,029	3,029	...	...	...	...	3,029	1,673	1,356	
	Number of villages ...	1,454	1,454	...	...	...	...	1,454	843	611	

STATEMENT No. IV.—Showing the progress made in the Regular Revision of Land Record Assessment (Office work) during the year ending the 30th September 1911.

District.		Total to be assessed.	Records completed.	Records fairad and passed.	Records copied for Patwaris.	First trace made.	Second trace made.	Ryotwari abstracts prepared.	Rent rates submitted.	Assessment report submitted.	Balance. For rent rates.	Balance. For final assessment.	Misls completed after announcement.	Sheet amended.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Damoh	Area in square miles	1,971	905	868	668	235	819	816	908	570	511	930	471	722	
	Number of villages	1,396	646	628	491	200	658	545	625	382	388	691	323	570	
Jubbulpore	Area in square miles	3,564	1,402	1,402	1,402	1,402	1,402	1,255	323	1,145	...	257	2,162	...	
	Number of villages	2,534	1,159	1,159	1,159	1,159	1,159	974	230	915	...	244	1,375	...	
Saugor	Area in square miles	3,180	237	237	51	71	26	167	...	...	3,180	3,180	..	244	
	Number of villages	2,079	211	211	78	94	32	174	...	...	2,079	2,079	..	204	
Wardha	Area in square miles	1,631	845	803	31	659	659	845	893	1,215	...	416	1,176	845	
	Number of villages	1,026	556	545	25	476	476	555	603	740	...	286	691	556	
Balaghat	Area in square miles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
	Number of villages	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1 (a)	(a) *Vide* (a) in Statement III.
Drug	Area in square miles	1,424	465	1,317	590	...	863	480	460	1,419	5	5	1,548	711	
	Number of villages	830	312	769	379	...	472	322	310	828	2	2	831	441	
Raipur	Area in square miles — Malguzari	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	500	...	
	Area in square miles — Ryotwari	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	...	...	...	13	
	Area in square miles — Summarily settled	10	10	10	10	7	7	10	10	10	...	...	...	7	
	Number of villages — Malguzari	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	293	...	
	Number of villages — Ryotwari	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	...	...	...	20	
	Number of villages — Summarily settled	6	6	6	6	5	5	6	6	6	...	...	...	5	
Bilaspur Khalsa	Area in square miles	2,847	...	1,023	1,062	949	949	198	942	1,506	...	...	905	368	
	Number of villages	2,002	...	506	876	571 (b)	571 (b)	66	511 (c)	859 (c)	...	..	876	116	(b) Includes 6 villages.
Bilaspur Zamindari	Area in square miles	3,029	27	69	59	953	226	...	...	592	...	...	883	23	(c) Includes Ryotwari villages.
	Number of villages	1,454	4	9	229	371	50	...	...	244	...	...	563	3	

REPORT

ON THE

OPERATIONS OF THE LAND RECORDS AND SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENTS

IN THE

CENTRAL PROVINCES

DURING THE YEAR

1911-12

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[The maximum limit of pages prescribed for this report is 10.]

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No. 98.

FROM

C. U. WILLS, ESQ., I. C. S.,

COMMISSIONER OF SETTLEMENTS AND DIRECTOR OF LAND RECORDS,

Central Provinces,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER, LAND RECORDS DEPARTMENT,

Central Provinces.

Nagpur, the 14th January 1913.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the operations of the Departments of Land Records and Settlements for the year ending 30th September 1912.

PART I.—OPERATIONS OF THE LAND RECORDS DEPARTMENT.

I.—LAND RECORDS ESTABLISHMENT.

Revision of establishment.

2. The patwari *halkabandi* was revised in the Wardha, Damoh and Bilaspur Districts. This resulted in an increase of four patwaris in Wardha and of twenty in the Bilaspur Zamindaris, while the Damoh staff was reduced by twenty. Three extra posts of Revenue Inspector were also sanctioned—two for the Bilaspur Zamindaris and one for Damoh; and for the latter district the appointment of an Assistant Superintendent of Land Records has also been approved since the close of the year.

Measures taken to improve the prospects of the staff.

3. The grades of Superintendents of Land Records were modified and their pay raised under the orders of the Government of India; and at the same time travelling allowance at a uniform rate for all grades of Rs. 1-8-0 per diem was sanctioned. These orders have been brought into effect from 1st October 1912. The pay of patwaris in the Saugor, Damoh and Bilaspur Districts was raised to a minimum of Rs. 10 per mensem during the year.

II.—LAND RECORDS WORK.

Changes in the system of Land Records.

4. In accordance with Amendment No. 146, dated the 24th June 1912, to the rules under Section 125, Land Revenue Act, mutations of malik-makbuza and muafi-sarkar rights are now entered in the annual papers by patwaris without preliminary proceedings being taken in a Revenue Court.

Condition of village maps.

5. The map correction parties working in districts under Settlement were of course primarily concerned with the improvement of village maps. But in other districts also adequate attention has been paid to the renewal of traces; and maps generally are reported to be in a satisfactory condition.

6. Village boundary marks and survey marks are in most districts well maintained. The Settlement Officer, Nagpur, reports a marked improvement in this respect as a result of the power of inflicting fines conferred on him and the Assistant Settlement Officer on map correction work although it was not found necessary actually to inflict a fine in any case.

Condition of village boundary marks, permanent marks for traverse stations and boundary marks of survey numbers in ryotwari villages.

In Nimar and Raipur the boundary marks of survey numbers in ryotwari villages are reported not to be in a satisfactory condition. In Nimar the slackness of patwaris in not indicating to cultivators where the marks should be erected is complained of. In both districts special efforts are being made to put things straight.

7. Though the total amount of check by Revenue Inspectors is statistically sufficient, it is questionable whether in all cases a high standard of work has been maintained. In many districts *khasra* testing began late and finished late. In Mandla only one-third; in Bhandara and Chanda less than half; and in Chhindwara and Betul a little more than half the work was completed by the due date, the 1st March. While exact punctuality need not be enforced, yet so much delay is likely to weaken the efficiency of the *kharsa* test and therefore the quality of the work itself. The remedy for this of course must be sought for in closer supervision from above.

Testing of village papers—(*a*) By Revenue Inspectors.

But in regard also to Superintendents and their Assistants' inspections the output of work stands a quantitative better than a qualitative test. The main defect in the work of these officials is their neglect of the *khasra* check register, with the result that their inspection of the Inspectors' work is inadequate. The Assistant Director reports that the check of the Inspectors' work is sometimes performed year after year in the same convenient part of large villages, while elsewhere whole blocks remain unchecked. In the Bhandara District the Superintendent admitted that he made no attempt to utilize his check register. In Wardha out of 4,290 *khasra* entries tested by the Superintendent, only 1,053 had been previously seen by the Revenue Inspector; in Seoni 85 per cent of the Superintendent's check in the head-quarters circle affected numbers which the Inspector had not seen; and in Mandla, during March, of 1,109 *khasra* numbers checked by the Superintendent only 106 had been previously checked by a Revenue Inspector. The anxiety of Superintendents and their Assistants to obtain good statistical results is at the bottom of this. But their action is contrary to the explicit instructions of the Land Record Manual. It is their primary duty to keep in touch with the Revenue Inspector and to see that his work is accurate and up to date.

(*b*) By Superintendents of Land Records and Assistant Superintendents.

(*c*) By Deputy Commissioners, Assistants and Tahsildars.

The amount of checking done by Deputy Commissioners, Assistant Commissioners and Tahsildars is satisfactory.

Mr. Blenkinsop inspected Land Record work in Chhindwara in April 1912. Messrs. Waterston and Hamilton, Assistant Directors, toured through Nagpur, Chhindwara, Seoni, Jubbulpore, Bhandara, Balaghat, Mandla, Narsinghpur and Hoshangabad.

(*d*) By Director and Assistant Director of Land Records.

The number of entries checked by Kanungos was up to the prescribed standard except where the volume of their inspection had been affected by Settlement operations. The percentage of error discovered was 0·87—last year's figure being 0·98.

(*e*) By Kanungos of Jamabandis.

8. There was some delay in filing *milan khasras*, *jinswars* and *jamabandis* in Mandla, Chanda, Bhandara, Raipur and Bilaspur. Jamabandis were delayed in ten districts, but except in Chhattisgarh, Mandla and Bhandara all were filed within a month of the due date.

Degree of punctuality in filing papers.

Condition of the Kanungo's office.

9. The inspection of Kanungos' offices was adequate, and except in Harsud and Chhindwara they were found to be in good order.

Issue of sanads for Agricultural improvements.

10. Three hundred and five sanads were granted during the year as against 519 in the preceding twelve months. No special reason for this is assigned. But advances made by Government to agriculturists especially during the scarcity of 1907-08 are said to have resulted in the issue of a larger number of sanads in 1908-09 (1,069), 1909-10 (646), and also probably in 1910-11 (519). The figure for 1911-12 is higher than that (255) recorded in 1907-08. But if the inference from these figures is correct, it indicates a marked want of enterprise among agriculturists as regards the utilization of their private capital.

III.—Conduct of Land Records Staff.

Residence of patwaris within their circles.

11. At the close of the year 171 patwaris were living outside their circles with the sanction of the Commissioner. Last year the number was 179. The number of patwaris non-resident without permission has this year been reduced from 307 to 262. In Bilaspur, though a small reduction has been effected, there are still 77 patwaris—almost 19 per cent of the total staff—non-resident without permission. It is explained that they are new men on probation or officiating in temporary vacancies. In Bhandara the number non-resident without permission has increased from 6 to 24. In view of the fact that their remuneration is being steadily improved, so much so that some districts report a keen competition for vacancies, I am of opinion that patwaris' residence within their circles should be more stringently insisted on. The longer such action is delayed the greater the disturbance to the patwaris concerned and the greater their consequent unwillingness to move. The practical effect of definite orders enforcing permanent residence is apparent, particularly in the Mandla District where the number of non-resident patwaris has fallen from 43 to 17.

Training of patwaris.

12. In the Saugor, Damoh and Wardha Districts the instruction received in the course of Settlement has produced a well-trained staff with a sufficient reserve of passed candidates. Accordingly no classes were opened this year in those districts. Elsewhere the usual course of instruction was given with satisfactory results.

Conduct and discipline of patwaris.

13. The following figures show the disciplinary measures taken against patwaris in the year under report as compared with those of the previous year :—

	1910-11.	1911-12.
Dismissals	72	70
Reductions	50	25
Fines	1,139	1,079
Suspensions	78	109
Transfers	95	83
Total ...	1,434	1,366

The total amount of fines is Rs. 4,047, an increase of Rs. 298 over last year's figure. The total number of patwari circles in the Province being Rs. 4,940, the fine list is a heavy one. For the infliction of a large majority of the petty punishments Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents are responsible;

offences such as impertinence or meeting the inspecting Superintendent in the *abadi* instead of at the village boundary resulting in the deduction of a rupee or so from the patwari's pay. The question of curtailing if not of abolishing the power of fining patwaris is already under consideration in connection with the revised draft of Revenue Book Circular III-1 recently submitted to the Secretariat. During a recent tour in Nimar my attention was drawn to the want of discipline among *watandari* patwaris in that district. The Settlement Officer is, I understand, making a separate reference in this connection.

Revenue Inspectors, their qualifications, conduct and discipline.

14. There are 39 Revenue Inspectors with the educational qualifications necessary for an appointment as Naib-Tahsildar. Of these, nine are already officiating as Naib-Tahsildars. Punishments were few. The Deputy Commissioner, Seoni, still finds his staff not amenable to discipline, but the dismissal of two Revenue Inspectors after the close of the year should strengthen his hands. In some districts, and noticeably in Bhandara, petty fines were imposed even on Revenue Inspectors, men in receipt of good conduct allowances being in some cases fined petty sums of three, two or even one rupee. In the case of Revenue Inspectors petty fines should be dispensed with altogether.

Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents, their qualifications, conduct and discipline.

15. At the recent re-grading of Superintendents of Land Records it was found necessary in making selections for promotion to pass over four men whose records were not satisfactory. Among Assistant Superintendents, one Govind Krishnaji, of the Bhandara District, was fined Rs. 20. There were no other punishments. The main defects in the work of these officials have been noted in paragraphs 7 (*b*) and 13. There has been a tendency in one or two cases for the Deputy Commissioner to summarize the work of his Superintendent as "satisfactory" or "satisfactory on the whole," when as a matter of fact even this moderate commendation has been undeserved. It is important, both in the interests of discipline and also with a view to fair selections for promotion to the higher grades, that inefficient work should not pass unnoticed in the Annual Report.

IV.—Utilization of Land Records.

Circle and village note-books.

16. Circle and Village Note-books are generally up to date, except where Settlement operations have caused unavoidable delay. Famine Note-books have been abolished under the orders contained in Secretariat letter No. 2859, dated the 14th May 1904, and Revenue Book Circular II-9 should be amended accordingly.

PART II.—OPERATIONS OF THE SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT.

17. *General.*—The operations conducted during the year related chiefly to—

(i) the revision of Settlement in malguzari villages of the Jubbulpore, Damoh, Saugor, Wardha, Nagpur and Nimar Districts;

(ii) the revision of Settlement in the Zamindari Estates in the Bilaspur District; and

(iii) the correction of maps and records preparatory to Settlement in the Saugor, Nimar and Nagpur Districts.

The orders of the Government of India were received in January last on the Forecast Report relating to the re-Settlement of the Nagpur District, and on a reference regarding the term of the new Settlement in the Wardha District. A final report was submitted by Mr. Dewar on the Chandrapur-Padampur, Malkharoda and Phuljhar Estates forming that portion of the Sambalpur District which has been retained in the Central Provinces. Final reports for the Jubbulpore and Mandla Districts and for the Bilaspur Zamindaris have also been submitted. Orders were received on the Assessment Reports of the Hinganghat and Wardha Tahsils, which were submitted to the Secretariat during the year, and the report on the Arvi Tahsil has also been disposed of since.

I.—THE REVENUE SETTLEMENT OF MALGUZARI VILLAGES.

18. *Jubbulpore.*—After completing the assessment of the remaining Barela and Sadar groups, comprising 240 villages with an area of 257 square miles, Mr. Mathias was transferred from the district. It was anticipated that Settlement operations would be completed by the end of March last, but progress was hampered by the prevalence of plague. The main heads of business disposed of during the year were the announcement of the Jubbulpore and Patan Tahsils comprising 1,161 villages with an area of 1,402 square miles; the assessment of Municipal lands acquired for the extension of Jubbulpore city; and the assessment of land sites in two ryotwari villages.

Mr. A. E. Mathias, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Rao Sahib S. R. Pandit and Messrs. Behari Lal Nema, Chhanulal and Parthasarthi Naidu, Assistant Settlement Officers.
Madho Martand, Settlement Superintendent.

19. Mr. H. R. Crosthwaite was deputed to write the Final Report, and it is now in the Press. Mr. Behari Lal Nema and Mr. Parthasarthi Naidu were transferred to other districts, while Mr. Chhanulal proceeded on leave. The work of winding up the Settlement was entrusted to Rao Sahib S. R. Pandit, and the office was closed on the 2nd of this month (January 1913). The services of officers will be dealt with in forwarding the Final Settlement Report.

20. *Damoh.*—The Settlement Officer saw the 101 villages remaining for his inspection, thus completing attestation work. Rent-rate Reports dealing with 386 villages and the Assessment Reports for 762 villages were also submitted by him before he went on leave in October last. The orders of the Administration have been received on all these reports. The announcement of 707 villages was also completed during the year. It is expected that the work will be completed and the office closed probably by the end of March 1913.

Mr. C. G. C. Trench, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. Ramkrishna Khando Indurkar and Chhaganlal, Assistant Settlement Officers.
Shankarnath, Settlement Superintendent.

The services of officers will be noticed in forwarding the Final Settlement Report which is now in course of preparation.

21. *Saugor.*—The attestation of 695 villages was done before the commencement of the rains. Of these 514 villages were actually inspected by the Settlement Officer. Some 740 villages remain to be attested. Three Rent-rate Reports relating to 142 villages were submitted by the Settlement Officer on which orders of the Administration were received and communicated. Mr. Corbett proceeded on three and a half months' leave from 4th July 1912 during which period Khan Sahib Mir Padshah was placed in charge of the current duties of the office and acquitted himself well. Syed Azmat Ali and Mr. D. V. Kane are reported to have shown much improvement: Mr. Corbett's own work is marked by unusual thoroughness.

Mr. G. L. Corbertt, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. A. D. P. Lancaster, Syed Azmat Ali and D. V. Kane, Assistant Settlement Officers.
Khan Sahib Mir Padshah, Assistant Settlement Officer (from June last).
Ramcharansingh, Settlement Superintendent.

22. *Wardha.*—Mr. Smith had completed the assessment of the remaining 286 villages before his transfer to Raipur on special duty. Two groups of Hinganghat, one group of Wardha and the Arvi Tahsil (674 villages) were "announced" during the year. The late Mr. Lakshman Aba fell ill in December and, as Mr. Chhote'al Bhat whorelieved him also suffered in health. Mr. Daji Kashinath took over charge from March 1912. Operations continued beyond the end of the year, the office closing on the 3rd instant. The services of officers will be noticed in forwarding the Final Settlement Report.

Mr. A. K. Smith, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. Chhotelal Bhat, Lakshman Aba and Daji Kashinath, Assistant Settlement Officers.

23. *Nagpur.*—The district was notified as under Settlement in February 1912, the orders of the Government of India on the Forecast Report not being received till the 24th January. But meanwhile preliminaries were being arranged to minimize the loss of time, and by the close of the year the attestation and inspection of the whole Nagpur Tahsil comprising 490 villages with an area of 746 square miles were completed. A good start was thus effected, for which the Settlement Officer deserves credit, especially considering the fact that he was hampered by the prevalence of plague. Mr. Lakshman Rao Bapuji got through a large amount of work.

Mr. J. F. Dyer, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. Lakshman Bapuji, Behari Lal Nema, Chhotelal, Chhaganlal and Muhammad Zaki, Assistant Settlement Officers.

24. *Nimar.*—Settlement operations were commenced in November 1911 when Mr. Nelson was appointed as Settlement Officer, *vice* the late Mr. T. E. Bromley, I. C. S. Attestation of the Harsud Tahsil was first taken up. Rent-rate Reports for the whole tahsil were submitted to the Local Government by the close of the year and orders were duly received thereon and communicated. The work in this tahsil presented considerable difficulty owing to the unhealthiness of the climate in the south and to the general inaccuracy of the maps. Cholera at the head-quarters also impeded the progress of office work. But these obstacles were met. Ninety-three villages of the Khandwa Tahsil were also attested during the year. The Settlement Officer generally acknowledges the good services of his Assistant Settlement Officers.

Mr. A. E. Nelson, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. Chunnilal, Chhotelal and Ramanand, Assistant Settlement Officers.

25. *Raipur and Drug.*—The assessment of the Drug District was fully completed by Mr. Hemingway before he left Raipur. Khan Sahib Mir Padshah was entrusted with the work of winding up the Settlement operations. This was finally completed by him in June last, and he was then transferred to Saugor. The Final Settlement Report of the Drug District was written by Mr. Hemingway before he proceeded on leave in October 1911, and has since been submitted to the Secretariat. In forwarding the report the services of Mr. Hemingway and his staff were specially noticed.

Mr. H. E. Hemingway, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Khan Sahib Mir Padshah, Assistant Settlement Officer.

26. *Bilaspur Khalsa.*—Mr. Hance proceeded on long leave in March 1912 after completing the assessment of the district, and Mr. B. Jagannath was placed in charge of the current duties of the office. During the year Messrs. Ravi Shankar, Ramanuj Prasad and Sankata Prasad, Assistant Settlement Officers, reverted to the regular line, and Mr. Daji Kashinath was transferred to Wardha.

Mr. J. E. Hance, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. B. Jagannath, Ravi Shankar, Ramanuj Prasad, Sankata Prasad and Daji Kashinath, Assistant Settlement Officers.

27. The announcement of rents and revenue in the remaining 395 villages covering an area of 664 square miles was finished. This, with the completion of *misls*, patwari *halkabandi* and other miscellaneous work, occupied the staff during the year. The office was closed in the first week of December, 1912. The services of officers will be mentioned in forwarding the Final Settlement Report which is shortly to be submitted.

II.—Revision of Settlement in Zamindari Estates.

28. *Bilaspur Zamindaris.*—Settlement operations proper were completed in the previous year, and only miscellaneous work remained to be done, such as the issue of protected status certificates, the excision of village waste from certain protected *thekedari* villages, the receipts of Zamindar's acceptances, the preparation of *wajib-ul-arz* and patwari *halkabandi* and the Settlement and demarcation of Zamindari boundaries. The Final Settlement Report was completed and is now ready for submission. The office was finally closed in August last. The services of officers have been dealt with in forwarding the Final Settlement Report.

Mr. C. U. Wills, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Mr. Chhotelal, Assistant Settlement Officer.

III.—Correction of Maps and Records preparatory to Settlement.

29. *Saugor.*—The remaining 314 villages in Saugor and 548 villages in Khurai were completed, the map correction of the whole district being thus completed in a little over two years. Mr. Lancaster worked with energy and promptness and maintained a good standard of accuracy. He was transferred in October 1912 to take up map correction preparatory to Settlement operations in Chhindwara.

30 *Nagpur.*—The remaining half of the Ramtek Tahsil and the whole of the Saoner Tahsil covering an area of about 800 square miles, 365 in the Ramtek

and 435 in the Saoner Tahsil, were disposed of. The work included the resurvey of 4 villages in the Ramtek and 9 in the Saoner Tahsil, and 71,853 acres of fresh survey besides. Mr. Jones had a very full season and worked hard and well.

31. *Nimar.*—The remaining 98 villages of the Khandwa Tahsil and 242 villages of the Burhanpur Tahsil were completed. Re-survey had to be done in 5 villages of the Khandwa Tahsil and in 7 villages of the Burhanpur Tahsil, covering a total area of 73 square miles. The patwari's work was found defective especially in ryotwari villages, and its corrections imposed considerable labour on the map correction party. But Mr. Anthony, Assistant Settlement Officer, performed his duties in a common sense and business-like manner. He was transferred to Hoshangabad in October 1912 to take up map correction in that district.

IV.—Surveys carried out.

32. Traverse surveys under the Assistant Settlement Officer, in charge of Traverse operations, were carried out in 242 villages in all. In addition an area of 28,000 acres was traversed in the Chanda District in connection with the Asola-Mendha and Ghorajheri Government Tanks. The work was as usual scattered and sometimes in difficult country, but a good standard was maintained. It is understood that in some districts insufficient effort has hitherto been made to secure that survey follows closely after traverse. If there is at all a long delay between the two, there is danger of some of the traverse stations being obliterated. I have called for special report in this connection and the matter will be looked into. The Assistant Settlement Officer undertook the re-survey of 10 villages in the Bhandara District during the year under report. He states that special measures will be necessary to secure that the general map correction of the district is completed before next Settlement operations commence. This will be seen to.

V.—Charge of the Office of Commissioner of Settlements and Director of Land Records, Central Provinces.

33. The office of Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records was held by Mr. E R. K. Blenkinsop, C. I. E., I. C. S., up to the 26th July 1912 when he proceeded on leave. The post of Assistant to the Director of Land Records was held by Mr. S. Waterston, I. C. S., up to 12th May 1912, when he was relieved by Mr. R. Hamilton, I. C. S.

VI.—Supply of Instruments and Stationery.

34. During the year the instruments and stationery depôt attached to this office issued instruments and drawing materials to the value of Rs. 7,805 as detailed below:—

	Rs.
To Settlement Department	3,613
To Deputy Commissioners for use of patwaris and Land Record work.	3,850
To Feudatory States	207
Otherwise issued, including Berar	125
Total ...	7,805

The value of forms supplied through the Anjuman Islamia Press, Jubbulpore amounted to Rs. 20,492 as shown below:—

	Rs.
To Settlement Department	2,548
To Deputy Commissioners for maintenance of village records ...	17,944
Total ...	20,492

The depôt also arranged as usual for the supply to Deputy Commissioners through the same press of 69,021 tenants' receipt books valued at Rs. 12,941.

VII.—Work of the Office of the Settlement Commissioner.

35. I append a table showing the principal reports which were submitted to the Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner during the year :—

Name of district.	Name of tahsil.	Final Settlement Reports.	Tahsil Assessment Reports.	Rent-rate Reports.		Assessment Reports.		
				No. of reports.	No. of villages.	No. of reports.	No. of villages.	
	Malguzari Villages.							
Saugor ...	Rehli ...	...	...	3	142	...	...	
Damoh ...	Damoh ...	...	...	6	412	12	797	
Jubbulpore ...	Jubbulpore ...	...	...	...	...	6	667	
Nimar ...	Harsud ...	...	...	2	63	...	...	
Wardha ...	Hinganghat ..	...	1	...	...	2	118	
	Wardha ...	...	1	...	...	3	218	
	Arvi ...	...	...	...	...	8	487	
Raipur ...	Phuljhar Settlement Report.	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Drug ...	Sanjari ...	...	...	...	...	2	109	
Bilaspur ..	Janjgir ...	...	...	...	...	1	98	
	Chandrapur-Pandampur Final Settlement Report.	1	...	...	...	...	...	
	Ryotwari Villages.							
Damoh ...	Hatta ...	...	...	...	...	*1	*6	* Combined Rent-rate and Assessment Report.
	Damoh ...	...	...	1	46	1	46	
Nimar ...	Harsud ..	...	...	1	53	...	...	
Balaghat ...	Final Settlement Report, Baihar ryotwari.	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Bilaspur ...	Bilaspur ...	...	...	...	...	†1	†4	† Combined Rent-rate and Assessment Report.
	Janjgir ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	
	Total ..	3	2	13	716	38	2,551	

The decrease in the volume of reports submitted to this office was due to the curtailment of work in the Jubbulpore, Wardha, Damoh, Raipur, Drug and Bilaspur Districts.

36. In the office Mr. H. L. Menasse, the Superintendent, and Bansidhar Sharma, Settlement Clerk, have worked well.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

C. U. WILLS,

Commissioner of Settlements and Director of Land Records.

STATEMENT No. I.—Showing the progress made in Original Cadastral Survey and preparation of Land Records during the year ending the 30th September 1912.

District.	Field work.				Office work.				Remarks.
	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
Saugor	320	...	320	...	320	...	320	...	
Nagpur	7,822	...	7,822	...	7,822	...	7,822	...	
	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	
Nimar	73	...	73	...	73	...	73	...	Number of villages 12.

STATEMENT No. II.—Showing the progress made in Map Correction during the year ending the 30th September 1912.

District.	Field work.				Office work.				Remarks.
	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	
Saugor	3,180	1,875	1,305	...	3,180	1,875	1,305	...	
Nagpur	1,089	311	778	...	1,089	311	778	...	
Nimar	802	...	802	...	802	...	802	...	Number of villages 340.

STATEMENT No. III.—Showing the progress made in the Regular Revision of Land Revenue Assessment (Field work) during the year ending the 30th September 1912.

District.		Attestation.						Announcement.			Remarks.
		Total to be attested.	Attested in previous years.	During the year under report.			Balance to be attested by Inspectors.	Total to be announced.	Announced during the previous years.	Announced during the year under report.	
				Attested by Inspectors.	Passed by Assistant Superior Officer.	Inspected by Superior Officer.					
1		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Saugor ...	Area in square miles	3,180	844	1,252	968	701	1,084	3,180	...	...	
	Number of villages	2,079	642	695	621	514	742	2,079	...	...	
Damoh ...	Area in square miles	2,021	2,021	...	...	...	...	2,021	471	1,015	
	Number of villages	1,394	1,394	...	...	...	...	1,394	323	707	
Jubbulpore ...	Area in square miles	3,561	3,561	...	...	...	...	3,561	2,159	1,402	
	Number of villages	2,532	2,532	...	...	...	...	2,532	1,371	1,161	
Bilaspur Khalsa ...	Area in square miles	2,843	2,843	...	...	...	...	2,843	2,179	664	
	Number of villages	2,002	2,002	...	...	...	...	2,002	1,607	395	
Nimar ...	Area in square miles	2,537	...	877	877	724	1,660	2,537	...	...	
	Number of villages	1,144	...	419	419	329	725	1,144	...	...	
Nagpur ...	Area in square miles	3,312	...	746	746	746	2,565	...	...	...	
	Number of villages	2,208	...	490	490	490	1,718	...	...	...	
Wardha ...	Area in square miles	...	2,220	...	...	...	...	2,220	1,176	1,044	
	Number of villages	...	1,365	...	...	...	...	1,365	691	674	

STATEMENT No. IV.—Showing the progress made in the Regular Revision of Land Revenue Assessment (Office work) during the year ending the 30th September 1912.

District.		Total to be assessed.	Records completed.	Records faired and passed.	Records copied for Patwaris.	First trace made.	Second trace made.	Ryotwari abstracts prepared.	Rent-rate Reports submitted.	Assessment Report submitted.	Balance.		Misls completed after announcement.	Sheets amended.	Remarks.
											For rent-rates.	For final assessment.			
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Saugor ...	Area in square miles ...	3,180	783	783	263	708	812	672	161	...	3,019	3,180	...	766	
	Number of villages ...	2,079	547	547	163	545	642	484	142	...	1,937	2,079	...	551	
Damoh ...	Area in square miles ...	2,021	164	201	718	924	688	431	548	1,082	...	...	1,015	276	
	Number of villages ...	1,394	101	119	402	571	392	298	386	762	...	...	707	176	
Jubbulpore ...	Area in square miles ...	3,561	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	257	...	...	1,402	...	
	Number of villages ..	2,532	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	240	...	...	1,161	...	
Bilaspur Khalsa ...	Area in square miles ...	2,843	...	44	89	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	1,938	...	Work completed. No balance.
	Number of villages ...	2,002	...	11	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,126	...	
Nimar ...	Area in square miles ...	2,537	720	720	168	91	...	720	618	...	1,919	2,537	...	382	
	Number of villages ...	1,144	326	326	97	62	...	326	284	...	860	1,144	...	191	
				(Sadar copy.)	(Patwari (copy.)										
Nagpur ...	Area in square miles ...	3,311	746	50	567	64	26	508	...	...	3,311	3,311	...	486	
	Number of villages ...	2,208	490	44	355	60	28	337	...	...	2,208	2,208	...	304	
Wardha ...	Area in square miles ...	...	...	42	1,220	626	626	...	...	416	...	...	1,044	...	
	Number of villages ...	...	...	11	743	152	321	...	...	286	...	...	674	...	

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REPORT

ON THE

OPERATIONS OF THE LAND RECORDS AND SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENTS

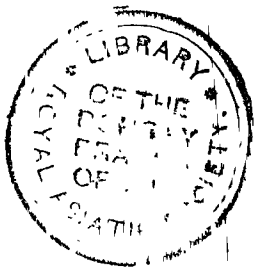
IN THE

CENTRAL PROVINCES

DURING THE YEAR

1912-13

(ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1913)



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No. 258—I-3.

FROM

H. E. HEMINGWAY, ESQ., I. C. S.,

COMMISSIONER OF SETTLEMENTS AND DIRECTOR OF LAND RECORDS,

Central Provinces,

TO

THE SECRETARY TO THE HONORABLE THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER, LAND RECORDS DEPARTMENT,

Central Provinces.

Nagpur, the 23rd January 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the operations of the Departments of Land Records and Settlements for the year ending 30th September 1913.

Revision of establishment.

2. The patwari halkabandi was revised in Betul, Narsinghpur and Bilaspur (Khalsa). In Narsinghpur six Patwari Circles in the haveli tract were abolished. In Betul and Bilaspur (Khalsa) respectively the staff was increased by 1 Revenue Inspector and 7 Patwaris and 2 Revenue Inspectors and 12 Patwaris.

Measures taken to improve the prospects of the staff.

3. An improved scale of pay for Superintendents of Land Records and travelling allowance at Rs. 1-8-0 per diem were sanctioned during the previous year. These improvements were brought into effect from 1st October 1912.

II.—LAND RECORDS WORK.

Changes in the system of Land Records.

4. During the year the following changes were made :—

(1) Rule 47 of Revenue Book Circular III-1, Appendix I, concerning the filing of jamabandis by the Kanungo was so amended as to provide that should a Patwari's work be found very inaccurate in respect of possession, right, number of field, area of field and rent, the Kanungo will make a report accordingly to the Tahsildar who will call for the Patwari's explanation and take such action as may seem necessary (amendment No. 190, dated the 29th August 1913).

(2) It was decided at the Pachmarhi Conference that Rule 52 of Revenue Book Circular III-1, Appendix I, should be amended to the effect that the Revenue Inspector should visit each Patwari Circle in his charge once in three months, and each village in his charge once in the season, instead of in each month, and in every three months respectively as heretofore, and the rule in question was amended after the close of the year under report (amendment No. 197, dated the 11th November 1913). It has also been ordered that except for special reasons Inspecting Officers are not to keep Revenue Inspectors with them during their inspections.

(3) Fines on Patwaris and Patwari-Gomashtas were abolished (amendment No. 186, dated the 15th August 1913). It was observed last year that the supervising Land Record staff had a tendency to act too arbitrarily in this respect.

(4) Under Rules XXX, XXXII and LI of Revenue Book Circular III-1, Appendix I, changes in possession amongst malguzars and others were ordered to be noted by the Patwari in his diary and reported to the Revenue Inspector when the latter visits the Patwari's circle and also to the Kanungo when the Patwari attends the tahsil office (amendment No. 179, dated the 21st June 1913).

(5) Mutations of malik-makbuza holdings were ordered to be shown in the statement to be prepared by the Patwari under Rule LXXXVII of Appendix II to Revenue Book Circular III-1 (amendment No. 147, dated the 16th November 1912).

Condition of village maps.

5. Apart from the districts under Settlement where maps of course have received special attention, the reports indicate that adequate attention has been given to the renewal of traces. The condition of maps is generally satisfactory.

Condition of village boundary marks, permanent marks for traverse stations and boundary marks of survey numbers in ryotwari villages.

6. The district reports generally indicate that marks are in a satisfactory condition and that action is taken where necessary. The Deputy Commissioner, Betul, remarks that he considers the number (72) of cases filed in the Betul and Multai tahsils for non-repair of permanent marks for Traverse Survey too numerous, and is ordering such cases to be referred to him personally in future. In Chanda 428 notices to Mukaddams for the repair of marks for traverse stations were issued, of which 392 had the desired effect. The Settlement Officer, Nimar, states that the condition of boundary marks of survey numbers in ryotwari villages which was noticed last year as unsatisfactory has been greatly improved and that it can now be safely said that they are in very fair condition.

Testing of village papers—(a) by Revenue Inspectors.

7. In most districts the amount of check was adequate in quantity considering all circumstances; but it is doubtful whether the quality of the work was equally satisfactory in all cases, especially where a high percentage of entries was checked. Two Revenue Inspectors in Damoh and two in Bhandara failed to check all the villages in their circles, the Revenue Inspector, Tirora (Bhandara), leaving 55 villages uninspected, while in Chanda 8 out of a total of 12 Revenue Inspectors failed to check all the villages in their circles. In the case of 3 circles, where altogether 111 villages were left unchecked, the Deputy Commissioner remarks that the shortage of work seems to be partly due to the Revenue Inspectors having to do a good deal of additional work on account of acquisition of land for irrigation works. In Sironcha tahsil (2 circles) and in Garchiroli tahsil (3 circles) respectively 161 villages out of 601 and 302 out of 903 remained unchecked, which, as the Deputy Commissioner remarks, is discreditable. The climate of these tahsils is always a source of complaint, and as the Deputy Commissioner observes any shortcoming in work is usually attributed to this cause. There can be no doubt that the climate of these tahsils tells on the health of Revenue Inspectors and Patwaris, but at the same time the figures given suggest that Revenue Inspectors have not done as much as they might have, and that the supervision of their work was inadequate. Revenue Inspectors are always anxious to escape from these tahsils, and there can be no doubt that this has a good deal to do with the poorness of their work. The Raipur report states that in the Raipur, Dhamtari and Baloda Bazaar tahsils the percentage of entries tested was below the fixed standard, but that there has been an improvement in comparison with the previous year's outturn.

The Deputy Commissioner, Seoni, observes that the quality of the check by Revenue Inspectors was generally defective and that the work of khasra testing was not finished in time.

(b) By Superintendents of Land Records and Assistant Superintendents of Land Records.

It should hardly need to be repeated here that the work of Revenue Inspectors is certain to deteriorate unless the supervising staff pay adequate attention to it; but it is clear that in some districts this is not adequately realized, and that quality of work is disregarded in the desire to exhibit good statistics. In last year's report it was remarked that out of 4,290 khasra entries tested by the Superintendent of Land Records, Wardha, only 1,053 had been previously seen by the Revenue Inspector for the year under report, the corresponding figures are 4,189 and 926, which is slightly worse. The Seoni report remarks that the Superintendent of Land Records and Assistant Superintendent of Land Records not infrequently inspected the same entries and that their tours overlapped, while the Deputy Commissioner, Mandla, observes that the control of the work of Revenue Inspectors leaves much to be desired. As the Superintendent of Land Records and Assistant Superintendent of Land Records, Mandla, during the year under report, checked nearly 3,000 more khasra numbers or 43 per cent more than in the previous year, the quality of their work cannot but be regarded as doubtful. The Assistant Director of Land Records who inspected field work during January and February in Bhandara, reported the work of the superior Land Record staff to be anything but satisfactory, while in Chanda his inspection of entries tested by the Assistant Superintendent of Land Records, Garchiroli-Brahmapuri Range, showed that not only was the check of poor quality but that much of it was check of khasra numbers which had not been previously seen by the Revenue Inspector. The statement in the Bilaspur report, that out of 932 errors discovered in 55,310 khasra numbers checked by Superintendent of Land Records and Assistant Superintendent of Land Records, 41 were in numbers previously tested by Revenue Inspectors, shows that a lot of the checking by these officers was independent check of Patwaris. The figures for Drug may also be quoted: last year a total of 29,838 entries were tested. In the year under report 37,459 entries, an increase of 24 per cent, were tested but only 6,155 or about 16 per cent had been previously checked by the Revenue Inspectors. There one Assistant Superintendent of Land Records checked 12,171 entries, 11,471 of which had not been previously tested by the Revenue Inspector. It cannot be too thoroughly realized that to be of real value checking by Superintendents of Land Records and their Assistants must be checking of Revenue Inspectors' work, and Deputy Commissioners will be asked to see that in future it is invariably stated how much of the check done was check of entries already tested by Revenue Inspectors.

Regarded quantitatively the outturn of work is, in all circumstances, satisfactory in most districts.

The inadequate work done by the two Assistant Superintendents of Land Records in charge of the Chanda, Warora and part of the Garchiroli tahsils of the Chanda district, is remarked upon in the report, only 4,835 entries in 253 villages being tested as against 6,347 in 410 villages during the previous year.

(c) By Deputy Commissioners, Assistants and Tahsildars.

This is generally satisfactory but the inadequate checking of Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars in several districts is commented upon. The Tahsildars of Tirora (Bhandara) and Damoh and the Naib-Tahsildars of Gadarwara (Narsinghpur) and Hinganghat (Wardha) tahsils are reported to have done no checking and in some other districts the outturn was poor in comparison with that of the previous year. In a few districts the amount of testing by Deputy Commissioners and their Assistants showed some falling off.

(d) By Director of Land Records and Assistant Director of Land Records.

Mr. Hamilton, Assistant Director, toured in Chanda and Bhandara during January and February.

(e) By Kanungos of Jamabandis.

The amount of check done by the Kanungos of Arvi and Hinganghat tahsils (Wardha) was poor. Otherwise, apart from districts under Settlement, the quantity of check was in nearly all cases up to the prescribed standard. The percentage of errors discovered was 0·89 as compared with last year's figure of 0·87.

8. Milan-khasras and jinswars were filed in due time in thirteen districts, and elsewhere except in Chhindwara (where filing was unavoidably delayed by work in connection wi h resettlement) and in Chanda all were filed within a month of the due date The Deputy Commissioner, Chanda, remarks that of only 4 Revenue Inspectors out of 12 got their jinswars and milan-khasras filed in time. Jamabandis were delayed in thirteen districts, but except in Damoh, Mandla, Chhindwara, Chanda, Bhandara, Raipur and Bilaspur were filed within a month of the due date. The district reports generally indicate that action is being taken in cases of delay in filing papers.

Degree of punctuality in filing village papers.

9. The inspection of Kanungos' offices was adequate, and except in Baihar (where however the office was found to be in fair order at an inspection made a month later) and Chhindwara (for the second year in succession) the results were satisfactory.

Condition of Kanungos' offices.

10. The Settlement Officer, Nagpur, states that he is granting sanads at announcement for improvements examined and noted at his assessments and that up to the 30th September 700 such sanads were distributed. Apart from this only 175 were granted as against 305 in the preceding year. No special remark is made on this decrease. An increase from 8 last year to 22 during the year under report in Seoni is attributed to last year's good crops and to the fact that settlement is impending. It is stated that no applications were received in Wardha and it appears to be doubtful whether the duty of Revenue Inspectors in this respect has been properly carried out.

Issue of sanads for Agricultural improvements.

III.—Conduct of Land Record Staff.

11. In Drug 8 Revenue Inspectors and 33 Patwaris who had assisted in extending the transplantation of rice received from the Agriculture Department rewards amounting to Rs. 622. The Superintendent of Land Records, Nagpur, and his Assistants are members of the District Agricultural Association and have endeavoured on their tours to explain the teaching of the Agriculture Department. This energy is creditable in view of the work imposed on them by the progress of Settlement operations.

Miscellaneous.

12. At the close of the year 187 Patwaris were being permitted to live outside their circles as against 171 in the previous year. The number of Patwaris non-residence without permission has been again reduced from 307 in 1910-11 and 262 in 1911-12 to 248.

Residence of Patwaris within their circles.

In Chanda the percentage of non-residence without permission rose from 4·60 to 8·76 and in Bhandara from 11·8 to 14·7. In the former case the increase is attributed mainly to transfers and to appointments of new men, while in Bhandara, where there has again been an increase, it is stated that the 30 non-residents include 14 acting men: last year there were 11 of these. Stringent action appears to be needed in this district The number of non-residents without permission increased slightly in 5 other districts but no case calls for special remark. In Bilaspur the percentage which last year was nearly 19 has been reduced to 15.

13. No classes were opened in Bhandara as there was already a sufficient number of trained candidates, and in Mandla survey classes were not opened as there were no new candidates.

Training of Patwaris.

In Drug 85 candidates were examined in survey and 84 in patwari rules. Only 24 passed in survey and 16 in patwari rules, and the Deputy Commissioner considers this to indicate that only a poor stamp of men is available to fill the post of Patwari. In Jubbulpore only 10 out of 36 candidates who appeared passed in the patwari rules. The Deputy Commissioner suggests that candidates might be required before being admitted to the examination to obtain a certificate from the Revenue Inspectors to the effect that they have a fair knowledge of the rules. The question will receive consideration. In other districts where training was given, the results were on the whole satisfactory.

14. The following figures show the disciplinary measures taken against Patwaris in the year under report as compared with those of the previous year :—

Conduct and discipline of Patwaris.

	1911-12.	1912-13.
Dismissals	70	98
Reductions	25	44
Fines	1,079	925
Suspensions	109	127
Transfers	83	89
Total ...	1,366	1,283

The total amount of fines is Rs. 2,890, a decrease of Rs. 1,157 from last year's figure. Fines have been abolished during the year under report.

In Nagpur, Hoshangabad and Chhindwara the demand in connection with Settlement operations, for more strenuous work, caused some increase of punishments of Patwaris.

In Raipur the number of dismissals increased from 14 to 31. No reason is assigned for this. In Saugor dismissals increased from 1 to 10; it is explained that most of the Patwaris dismissed were under suspension in the previous year and that their cases were awaiting the return of the Settlement Officer from leave. The total number of punishments in Drug was only about one-fourth of the number inflicted during 1911-12, which is satisfactory ; the decrease is ascribed to the vigorous measures taken during the previous year to bring Patwaris into line The Commissioner, Jubbulpore Division, and the Deputy Commissioner, Seoni, comment on the bad state of discipline among the Seoni Patwaris : this is stated to be in large part due to the fact that the late Superintendent of Land Records and his Assistant spent most of their time quarrelling with each other. The question of discipline will receive my attention during the present camping season.

15. Punishments were very few. The Deputy Commissioner, Seoni, describes his Revenue Inspectors as unable to enforce discipline or honesty. One is non-resident in his circle without permission and the residence of another is merely nominal. As already stated the discipline of the Land Record staff in Seoni will be the subject of enquiry. In Damoh the pay of all the Revenue Inspectors of Damoh tahsil was stopped for late filing of papers and in Chanda the good conduct allowances of five Revenue Inspectors were reduced or withdrawn for unsatisfactory work, while the Deputy Commissioner, Narsinghpur, remarks that the Inspectors seem to be below the average.

Revenue Inspectors, their qualifications, conduct and discipline.

16. There were no punishments during the year. The work of these officials would be more satisfactory if they were younger. The greater portion of their field work falls in the hot weather, and the fact that many of the Superintendents of Land Records are over 50 goes far to explain the unsatisfactory figures in paragraph 7 (*b*).

Superintendents of Land Records Assistant Superintendent of Land Records, their qualifications, conduct and discipline.

IV.—Utilization of Land Records.

17. Apart from a few cases where resettlement operations have caused unavoidable delay, circle note-books are up to date in all districts except four. In Chanda, Seoni and Chhindwara the work of writing up was incomplete on account of statistics of rental co lections not having been received. The Damoh note-books for Hatta Tahsil were not written up to date, but it is stated that efforts are being made to complete them as early as possible. Apart from some cases where the Revenue Inspectors could not write them up through being engaged in Settlement work village note-books are mostly up to date. It is stated that in Chanda 481 village note-books have

Circle and Village Note-book.

not been filled up for the year under report. Two Revenue Inspectors have still over 100 each to write up.

In four groups of the Damoh tahsil little writing up has deen done, but efforts are being made to complete them. Four Revenue Inspectors in Bhandara have failed to write up all their books of their circles; the number in one case being 149. It is stated that action has been taken.

PART II.—OPERATIONS OF THE SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT.

18. *General.*—The operations conducted during the year ending 30th September 1913 consisted chiefly of—

(i) the revision of Settlement in malguzari villages of the Saugor, Nimar and Nagpur districts and of the ryotwari villages of the Nimar district.

(ii) the correction of maps and records preparatory to Settlement in the Nagpur, Chhindwara and Hoshangabad districts.

Forecast Reports on the resettlement of the Hoshangabad and Chhindwara districts were submitted during the year and the orders of the Government of India were received on the final reports for the Drug and Jubbulpore districts and for the Bilaspur Zamindaris.

I.—The Revenue Settlement of Malguzari Villages.

19. *Saugor.*—Attestation in 742 villages of the Saugor and Khurai tahsils, covering an area of 1,089 square miles, was completed of which 515 villages (960 square miles) were inspected and passed by the Settlement Officer. Rent Rate Reports were submitted for 9 groups comprising 395 villages of the Rehli tahsil and orders were received on all of them. Assessment Reports for 5 groups of 210 villages were submitted before close of the year.

Mr. G. L. Corbett, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Khan Sahib Mir Padshah and Messrs. Syed Azmat Ali, D. V. Kane and Abdul Qaiyum, Assistant Settlement Officers.

Whilst the progress in the field was satisfactory, the outturn in office was unsatisfactory, owing to a series of misfortunes amongst the superior staff and to the unsatisfactory character of some of the subordinate establishment. Khan Sahib Mir Padshah's health gave way just as he had fully mastered the management of the Statistical branch, with which he had not previously been familiar, and Mr. Abdul Qaiyum's health also gave way, so that two Assistant Settlement Officers, Messrs Kane and Azmat Ali, had practically to do 4 mens' work. But though the outturn of reports was rather short, the work was of an extremely high quality, Mr. Corbett fully maintaining his reputation for accuracy and soundness of judgment. Messrs. Kane and Azmat Ali deserve high praise for their exertions. It is to be hoped that after the relief of Khan Sahib Mir Padshah no more changes will be necessary in the staff till operations are completed, as the work in Saugor is specially complicated by the recent reimposition proceedings.

20. *Nimar.*—The attestation of the remaining 544 malguzari and 178 ryotwari villages of the Khandwa and Burhanpur tahsils was completed and inspected either by Mr. Nelson or during his absence in May last by Mr. Chhotelal Verma, Assistant Settlement Officer. Rent Rate Reports were submitted for 79 ryotwari and 538 malguzari villages and Assessment Reports for 249 ryotwari and 520 malguzari villages. The announcement of 316 villages in the Harsud tahsil and 41 villages in the Khandwa tahsil was also carried out.

Mr. A. E. Nelson, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs Chunnilal, Chhotelal Verma, Parthasarthi Naidu and Ramanand, Assistant Settlement Officers.

The preliminary map-correction work carried out by Mr. Anthony was found to be quite satisfactory. The fairing of maps and records is somewhat in arrears owing to the amount of attention which has been paid to pushing on assessment work. There is, however, every hope that the arrears of fairing will be completed early. Both in the field and in assessment work the progress

has been extremely rapid; and the staff, notably Messrs. Chhunnilal and Chhotelal Verma, Assistant Settlement Officers, have responded to the very heavy calls which Mr. Nelson made on them. Mr. Nelson also notices good work in attestation by the Settlement Superintendents Ram Rao and Durga Prasad. Owing to Mr. Nelson's energy and driving power it is to be expected that Settlement operations will terminate very shortly.

21. *Nagpur.*—Field work began in the middle of October 1912 and closed at the end of May 1913, by which time the whole of the Saoner tahsil and the Ramtek tahsil, except the portion commanded by the Ramsagar tank comprising in all 558 villages spread over an area of 955 square miles, had been attested and inspected by the Settlement Officer. 1,110 villages still remain for attestation. Owing to many villages adjoining Government forest a careful comparison had to be made between the Revenue and the Forest maps which disclosed many discrepancies which are being reconciled in consultation with the Divisional Forest Officer. The preparation of the papers for the most closely cultivated parts of the Saoner tahsil and the rectification of imperfect record in the village papers relating to mining concession, which are numerous, also proved rather a troublesome matter. Rent Rate Reports for 657 villages of the Nagpur, Saoner and Ramtek tahsils and Assessment Reports for 6 groups containing 426 villages of Nagpur and the Uparwahi group of Saoner containing 34 villages were submitted during the year.

Mr. J. F. Dyer, I. C. S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. Lakshman Baouji, Chhaganlal, Beharilal Nema, Chhotelal, and Muhammad Zaki, Assistant Settlement Officers.

Thus though the staff was disorganised by the illness of Mr. Lakshman Rao Bapuji at the end of the field season, and also of Mr. Jones and Mr. Beharilal Nema, the last of whom was invalided from Government service, the year's programme was punctually carried out. Mr. Dyer speaks highly of the work of all of his assistants, and Mr. Lakshman Rao Bapuji's experience was of the greatest use in organising and starting announcement work. The Nagpur staff is certainly a large one, so that temporary casualties caused less inconvenience than would have otherwise been the case; but the good quality of the work done and the punctuality with which all operations were completed is largely to be ascribed to Mr. Dyer's powers of organisation and unflagging energy.

II.—Correction of Maps and Records preparatory to Settlement.

22. *Nagpur.*—Work commenced early in November 1912 and closed by the beginning of June 1913. The whole of the Katol tahsil and the western groups of the Umrer tahsil comprising 642 villages and covering about 940 square miles were completed. The number of fields dealt with was 80,147, of which 78,827 were touched by partals. 15,834 khasra numbers were checked and sub-traverse lines run in 104 villages in the eastern portion of Umrer tahsil. Mr. Jones remained in charge of the map correction party till April 1913, when his health broke down and he made over to Mr. Muhammad Zaki. Mr. Jones worked hard and well and exercised a good control over his staff.

23. *Hoshangabad.*—Actual map correction under Mr. Anthony, Assistant Settlement Officer, began in January and closed at the end of June 1913. Maps were corrected for the whole of the Sohagpur tahsil comprising 411 villages with an area of 772 square miles. 61 villages covering 162 square miles were surveyed, of which 22 villages were in the open country and the remainder in the jungle. The latter gave the usual trouble owing to the disappearance of many of the traverse marks, particularly in the large areas of jungle in the Jagirs.

Office work consisted of the preparation of traces for attestation in the Sohagpur tahsil, recalculation and comparison of areas of resurveyed villages, and preparation of jamabandis.

Considering the late start and dislocation of work during the month of March when wheat was harvested, the map correction staff have gone through a fair programme successfully due largely to the energy displayed by Mr. Anthony.

24. *Chhindwara.*—The preparation of pencil sheets was started in August 1912, so that the map correction party was able to start work early in the season. The tract of which maps were corrected comprised practically the whole western half of the old Chhindwara tahsil consisting of 573 villages. Of these 62 were Khaka villages which had been surveyed before traverse, and were now resurveyed. Besides this 40 ryotwari villages were dealt with. In many instances the forest boundaries did not agree with the maps. They were therefore surveyed and plotted as found on the ground and steps will be taken to have the discrepancies reconciled in consultation with the Forest Department. Owing to numerous changes since last Settlement, the area of each field had to be recalculated which added largely to the work to be done during the office season. Traverse stations are generally in good condition except round about head-quarters. The Settlement Superintendents are reported to have worked well. Mr. Lancaster has carried out an extremely difficult piece of work in a satisfactory manner.

III.—Surveys carried out.

25. Two traversers were added to the Traverse Survey detachment which now consists of 8 traversers and 5 computers. Traverse was done during the year in the districts of Raipur, Drug, Saugor, Chhindwara, Balaghat, Chanda, Nimar and Bilaspur and amounted to 2,038 linear miles of survey in 308 villages besides sub-traverse in 130 villages. The assistance of the staff was also sought in connection with certain boundary disputes and two traversers were deputed to work under the Special Boundary Officer in the Chhattisgarh States Division The work was generally satisfactory and scattered over large areas involving long marches by traverse squads.

Mr. Johnson held charge of the traverse survey party up to May 1913, when he proceeded on six months' leave, making over to Mr. Jones.

IV.—Charge of the Office of Commissioner of Settlements and Director of Land Records, Central Provinces.

26. The office of Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records was held by Mr. C. U. Wills, I. C. S., up to 24th October 1912, by Mr. E. R. K. Blenkinsop, C. I. E., I. C. S., from the 25th October to 12th November 1912, again by Mr. C. U. Wills, I. C. S., from 13th November to 9th February 1913, and by me from the 10th February up to the end of the year. The post of Assistant to the Director of Land Records was held by Mr. R. Hamilton, I. C. S., from the 1st October 1912 to 20th March 1913, and by Mr. F. R. R. Rudman, I. C. S., from the 18th May to 6th June 1913. For the rest of the year the post remained vacant, and the Superintendent of the Office, Mr. H. L. Menasse, had in consequence to do the Assistant Settlement Commissioner's work in addition to his own.

V.—Supply of Instruments and Stationery.

27. During the year the Instruments and Stationery Depôt attached to my office issued instruments and drawing materials to the value of Rs. 14,831 as detailed below:—

	Rs.
To Settlement Department	6,184
To Deputy Commissioners for use of Patwaris and Land Record work.	8,087
To Feudatory States	407
Otherwise issued, including Berar ...	153
Total ...	14,831

The value of forms supplied through the Anjuman Islamia Press, Jubbulpore, amounted to Rs. 22,673 as shown below:—

	Rs.
To Settlement Department	5,825
To Deputy Commissioners for maintenance of village records.	16,848
Total ...	22,673

The Depôt also arranged as usual for the supply to Deputy Commissioners through the same Press of 70,058 tenants' receipt books valued at Rs. 13,136.

VI.—Work of the Office of Settlement Commissioner.

28. I append a table showing the principal reports which were submitted to the Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner during the year:—

Name of district.	Name of tahsil.	Final Settlement Reports.	Tahsil Assessment Reports or Forecast Reports.	Rent-rate Reports.		Assessment Reports.		
				Number of reports.	Number of villages.	Number of reports.	Number of villages.	
	Malguzari Villages.							
Saugor ...	Rehli ...	...	...	8	342	4	163	
Nimar ...	Harsud ...	...	...	2	89	4	152	
	Khandwa ...	...	...	10	456	5	267	
Wardha ...	Arvi ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	
Nagpur ...	Nagpur ...	...	...	6	485	6	485	
	Saoner ...	...	...	3	155	...	...	
	Ramtek ...	...	...	1	33	...	...	
Drug ...	Sanjari ...	...	...	...	...	*1	*5	*Combined Rent-rate and Assessment Report.
		1	...	...	...	...	...	
Jubbulpore ...	.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Hoshangabad ...	.....	...	†1	...	...	...	...	†Forecast Reports.
Chhindwara ...	.....	...	†1	...	...	...	...	
Bilaspur Zamindari.	.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	
	Ryotwari Villages.							
Nimar ...	Harsud ...	...	...	2	120	1	173	
	Khandwa ...	...	...	1	79	...	..	
Chanda ..	Warora ...	...	...	2	39	2	9	
	Chanda ...	...	...	1	30	2	31	
	Brahmapuri ...	...	...	3	8	3	8	
	Garchiroli ...	...	...	1	1	1	1	
	Sironcha ...	...	...	1	4	1	4	
	Total ...	3	3	41	1,841	30	1,298	

29. The Superintendent of the Office, Mr. H. L. Menasse, and also the Settlement Clerk, Bansidhar Sharma, did good work during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

H. E. HEMINGWAY,

Commissioner of Settlements and Director of Land Records.

STATEMENT I.—Showing the progress made in original Cadastral Survey and preparation of Land Records during the year ending the 30th September 1913.

District.	Field work.				Office work.				Remarks.
	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
Nagpur	24,809	7,822	5,024	11,963	24,809	7,822	5,024	11,96 3	
Hoshangabad	103,976	...	103,976	..	103,976	...	103,976	...	
	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	
Chhindwara	62	...	62	...	62	...	62	...	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
Bhandara	46,344	12,314	20,616	13,414	46,344	12,314	20,616	13,414	

STATEMENT No. II.—Showing the progress made in Map Correction during the year ending the 30th September 1913.

District.	Field work.				Office work.				Remarks.
	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	
Saugor	3,190	3,190	...	...	3,190	3,190	...	...	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
Nagpur	2,097,639	1,179,838	599,533	318,268	2,097,639	1,179,838	599,533	318,268	
Hoshangabad	390,400	...	390,400	...	390,400	...	390,400	...	
	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	Sq. miles.	
Chhindwara	741	...	741	...	741	...	741	...	

STATEMENT III.—Showing the progress made in the Regular Revision of Land Revenue Assessment (Field work) during the year ending the 30th September 1913.

District.		Attestation.						Announcement.			Remarks.
		Total to be attested.	Attested in previous years.	During the year under report.			Balance to be attested by Inspectors.	Total to be announced.	Announced during the previous year.	Announced during the year under report.	
				Attested by Inspectors.	Passed by Assistant Superior Officer.	Inspected by Superior Officer.					
1		2	3		5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Saugor ...	Area in square miles ...	3,190	2,100	1,089	1,154	960	1	3,190	...	36	
	Number of villages ...	2,077	1,334	742	701	515	1	2,077	...	38	
Nimar ...	Area in square miles ...	2,537	877	1,660	1,660	1,660	...	2,537	...	789	
	Number of villages ...	1,127	405	722	722	722	...	1,127	...	357	
Nagpur ...	Area in square miles ...	3,311	746	955	955	955	1,610	3,311	...	290	
	Number of villages ...	2,116	448	558	558	558	1,110	2,116	...	176	

STATEMENT IV.—Showing the progress made in the Regular Revision of Land Revenue Assessment (Office work) during the year ending the 30th September 1913.

District.		Total to be assessed.	Records completed.	Records fained and passed.	Records copied for Patwaris.	First trace made.	Second trace made.	Ryotwari abstracts prepared.	Rent rates submitted.	Assessment Reports submitted.	Balance.		Misls completed after announcement.	Sheets amended.	Remarks.
											For rent-rates.	For final assessment.			
1		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Saugor	Aree in square miles ...	3,190	664	484	...	824	764	331	519	282	2,510	2,908	...	673	
	Number of villages ...	2,077	365	293	...	443	407	191	395	210	1,540	1,867	...	366	
Nimar ...	Area in square miles ...	2,537	1,316	1,316	740	629	720	1,734	1,355	1,716	564	821	720	2,080	
	Number of villages ...	1,127	645	645	332	254	316	757	617	769	236	358	316	910	
Nagpur ...	Area in square miles ...	3,311	849	790	885	988	169	614	1,095	773	2,216	2,538	134	1,101	
	Number of villages ...	2,116	520	510	485	560	27	344	657	460	1,459	1,656	90	632	

REPORT

ON THE

OPERATIONS OF THE LAND RECORDS AND SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENTS

IN THE

CENTRAL PROVINCES

DURING THE YEAR

1913-14

(ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1914)

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No. 13-I.

FROM

H. E. HEMINGWAY, ESQ., I.C.S.,

COMMISSIONER OF SETTLEMENTS AND DIRECTOR OF LAND RECORDS,

Central Provinces,

To

THE SECRETARY TO THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF COMMISSIONER,

LAND RECORDS DEPARTMENT,

Central Provinces.

Nagpur, the 6th January 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report on the operations of the Land Records and Settlement Departments of the Central Provinces for the year ending September 30th, 1914.

Revision of establishment.

2. Revisions of establishment were effected as follows. In Chhindwara an extra Revenue Inspector's circle was added. In Nimar the Patwari Halkabandi was revised, and the number of Patwaris was raised from 267 to 278. On the other hand in Narsinghpur, where the number of Patwaris is excessive, 16 Circles were abolished on the death of the incumbents, causing a saving of Rs. 1,625-8-0 per annum.

Measures taken to improve the prospects of the staff.

3. During the year under report the schemes for amalgamating the cadres of Superintendents of Land Records and Assistant Superintendents of Land Records with the subordinate Civil Service and for grading the Patwaris on improved pay have been worked out. The former scheme is to take effect from October 1st, 1914, and the prospect of the amalgamation caused a much better class of man to apply for the posts of Assistant Superintendent of Land Records. The scheme for grading the Patwaris will come into force, district by district, according to urgency as funds are available.

II.—LAND RECORDS WORK.

Changes in the system of Land Records.

4. The following changes were made in the system of Land Records during the year.

The Revenue Inspector is no longer required personally to total the agricultural statistics for all the villages of his Circle, but the Patwari totals the figures for his Circle, and the Revenue Inspector merely has to add the totals of the Patwaris' Circles together. This relieves the Revenue Inspector of much unnecessary work.

Now that Inspecting Officers no longer keep Revenue Inspectors with them [paragraph 4 (2) of last year's report] it has been found necessary to break up the Khasra Janch register volumes (Revenue Book Circular III, Appendix I, Rule 30) ; now each Patwari has the register for his Circle with him.

To ensure that Superintendents of Land Records and Assistant Superintendents of Land Records really do check the work of Revenue Inspectors adequately the form of the quarterly returns prescribed in Revenue Book Circular III-1, Appendix I, Rule 68, has been altered to show the proportion of khasra entries checked, which had been previously checked by the Revenue Inspector.

Condition of village maps.

5. Village maps are reported to be generally in good condition, but the Betul and Seoni districts are exceptions, as the Patwari Staff is not strong enough to deal with the great expansion of cultivation which has taken place since settlement. Special map correction proceedings have now been started in Seoni, and will, probably start next year in Betul: steps have also been taken to revise the Patwari Halkabandi of the two districts. The renewal of worn out traces was carried out as usual, except in Jubbulpore, Mandla and Damoh where scarcity interfered with Land Record work.

Condition of village boundary marks, permanent marks for traverse stations and boundary marks of survey numbers in ryotwari villages.

6. The condition of boundary marks and traverse stations was generally satisfactory, though the Deputy Commissioner, Bhandara, reports that this has been neglected in the past: as settlement operations will shortly start in that district, this will be thoroughly remedied. Fines amounting to Rs. 196 were imposed on Mukaddams in Nagpur, Chanda, Wardha, Narsinghpur, Chhindwara and Betul. The Deputy Commissioner, Betul, has little faith in the reports that the marks are in good condition: in two villages of the Multai tahsil the fact that the trijunction pillars were out of repairs was reported so late that repairs could not be done in the year under report.

(*a*) Check of village records in districts not under settlement.*

7. The check of village records by Revenue Inspectors was generally adequate in quantity, but both the Deputy Commissioners of Seoni and Betul consider that the quality of the check was poor. The Assistant Settlement Commissioner reports that the work in Bhandara is also of poor quality, but I trust not as bad as is suggested by the district report that 413 out of 2,200 numbers rechecked by the Superintendent of Land Records and his Assistant were found incorrect. No explanation of these figures is given in the district report, and I can only suggest that the errors are mainly omissions on the part of the Patwari and Revenue Inspector to record petty alterations of internal rice bunds in a large chak. Personally, I can see no reason why these petty changes should be recorded, as they merely waste valuable time, and no one's rights could possibly be affected by neglecting them. This trouble is common to all rice districts where "chaks" are the rule, and in Bhandara I found Patwaris were wasting a great deal of time in this way.

In Chanda, the check done by the Revenue Inspectors is again insufficient. The reasons given by the Deputy Commissioner are the extra work due to Irrigation projects, inefficient substitutes, and ill-health, especially in Sironcha. It seems, however, that the whole establishment requires revising. This district is the second largest in the Provinces, and there are three Assistant Superintendents of Land Records as in Raipur, the largest district: but in Raipur there are 32 Revenue Inspectors and 584 Patwaris, whereas in Chanda there are only 12 Revenue Inspectors and 194 Patwaris.

(*b*) By Superintendents of Land Records and Assistant Superintendents of Land Records.

8. There has been a marked improvement in the quality of the check of Superintendents of Land Records and their Assistants, the proportion of entries checked by them which had been previously checked by Revenue Inspectors being generally satisfactory. Notable exceptions were Mr. Saiyid Nur, officiating Superintendent of Land Records, Raipur, and Mr. Naidu, Superintendent of Land Records, Drug. The former has been reverted, and the latter has been retransferred to the ministerial branch from which he came.

The quantity of checking done was generally adequate. In Seoni, there was a serious shortage, owing to the illness of the officiating Superintendent of Land Records, Mr. Anand Rao, who has since died. In Chanda, the staff was not at full strength during a considerable portion of the year, and the Superintendent of Land Records, Mr. Pusatkar, was ill: even so, the outturn of work was low, and an examination of the diaries of the supervising staff, which I made

* In districts under settlement ordinary Land Records work is more or less at a standstill.

in the rains, showed that they had been very slack. The outturn of work in Bhandara strikes me as too small, and I think the Superintendent of Land Records, Mr. Darhe, is inclined to shirk hard work. In Betul, the Superintendent of Land Records was really past his work, and the Assistant Superintendent of Land Records, Mahabir Parshad, who officiated for six months, was extremely lazy, in spite of frequent censures by the Deputy Commissioner. It is to be hoped that with a younger, more energetic, and more intelligent supervising staff, a much higher standard of work will be achieved, and to this we may look forward now that the younger Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsidars are to be employed on Land Records work.

(c) By Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars.

9. In most districts the Tahsildars and their Naibs did a fair amount of checking of Land Records work, and even in the Jubbulpore and Mandla districts, where scarcity interfered with ordinary work the outturn was satisfactory. There are, however, exceptions. In Narsinghpur, except for the Tahsildar of Gadarwara, supervision was rather slack, and the work of the Naib-Tahsildar, Gadarwara, which I rechecked in two villages, was so superficial as to be worthless. In the Seoni tahsil of the Seoni district, the Arvi tahsil of the Wardha district, the Bhandara tahsil of the Bhandara district, and the Dhamtari tahsil of the Raipur district, Tahsildars and their Naibs practically ignored this part of their duties. The Deputy Commissioners concerned have noted this, and it is to be hoped that next year there will be a decided improvement.

(d) By Deputy Commissioners and their Assistants.

10. The amount of checking done by Deputy Commissioners and their Assistants calls for little remark. It was generally rather small in quantity, the Deputy Commissioners of Drug and Seoni being marked exceptions to this, but in Bhandara the Deputy Commissioner did practically no checking at all, and in Seoni the Assistants seem to have left this work entirely to the Deputy Commissioner. I would suggest that if Deputy Commissioners and Sub-Divisional Officers have so little time to devote to Land Records work they could exercise more control if they carefully examined the Khasra Janch registers, and followed the course of Superintendents of Land Records and Revenue Inspectors through a few villages on the map. A Superintendent of Land Records can give a very pretty outturn of rechecking Revenue Inspectors' work if both have confined their attention to the tiny fields round the village site, or have followed the same cart-track through the fields, leaving the more inaccessible numbers unchecked.

(e) By Director of Land Records and Assistant Directors of Land Records.

11. Mr. Searle, Assistant Director, toured in Chanda, Bhandara, Seoni and Mandla, and checked Khasra entries. I was mainly confined to settlement work, but checked 108 Khasra entries in 12 villages in Narsinghpur on my way to Saugor: the whole of these had been previously checked by Revenue Inspectors or the superior supervising staff.

(f) Check of Jamabandis by Kanungos.

12. The Kanungos checked an adequate number of Jamabandi entries. The number of mistakes found amounted to 85 per cent of the numbers checked, but I found on inspecting these offices that the new Rule 47 of Appendix I to Revenue Book Circular III-1 had not been communicated to Hindi-knowing Kanungos. Steps have been taken to supply them with translations, but it is not creditable either to the Tahsildars or Superintendents of Land Records concerned that this omission should have occurred. The Deputy Commissioner, Betul, says that the check at Bhainsdehi must have been superficial and the Deputy Commissioner, Mandla, where only 39 of the numbers checked were found incorrect, says the check by the Kanungos is worthless. When I inspected the Mandla office I pointed out that the figures were most suspicious as the Patwari staff is certainly a poor one, and that a considerable recheck by the Superintendent of Land Records was desirable. Attention should be paid to this point next year. The extreme accuracy of the Arvi as compared to the Wardha Jamabandis is also suspicious.

Degree of punctuality in filing village papers.

13. Except in districts under settlement, the village papers were generally filed punctually, though scarcity caused some delay in the filing of Jamabandis in the Jubbulpore Division. In Chanda there was much unpunctuality, for which no explanation is given, and 56 Jamabandis remained unfiled at the end of the year. In Bhandara also, though there has been some improvement, there is room for a great deal more.

Condition of Kanungos' offices.

14. Kanungos' offices have been adequately inspected, and with the exception of Damoh, Ramtek, Janjgir and Drug are reported to be in a satisfactory condition. The Kanungo of Ramtek is about to retire, and efforts are being made to get the Kanungo of Drug transferred to a lighter charge. Unfortunately Kanungos can only be transferred by the Divisional Commissioner and there are no light charges in Chhattisgarh.

Issue of sanads for agricultural improvements.

15. During the year under report, 734 sanads were issued against 875 in the previous year. The difference of 141 is mainly due to the Settlement Officer, Nagpur, having granted 162 sanads less at announcement than in the preceding year, but no explanation has been furnished for this decrease. Jubbulpore, Wardha, Bhandara and Raipur show an increase of 10 to 14 whereas no sanads were issued in Damoh, Chanda and Drug.

Miscellaneous.

16. The district reports are inadequate in this respect. Besides the sale of quinine in some jungly districts, the Land Records Staff was concerned in the issue of Nistar and Paidawar lists, and also with the preparation of grazing passes for the Forest Department. Where reference is made to these matters the work is said to have been done satisfactorily, and it is to be hoped that the Conservators of Forests will have the same remarks to make. In case they do not I would point out that the existing rules leave too many loop-holes both for honest and dishonest mistakes, and until they are revised it is hardly fair to throw all the blame of unsatisfactory results on the Land Records Staff. I think, however, it can be said that the Land Records Staff have made a real effort to work with the Forest Staff during the last year, and the only criticism I would make is that Superintendents of Land Records and their Assistants seem to think that they are not concerned with checking this work: of the Superintendents of Land Records questioned by me about this, only two, Messrs. Barwe and Kesho Rao Dixit, had supervised the issue of grazing passes.

III.—Conduct of Land Records Staff.

Residence of Patwaris within their Circles.

17. In spite of the remarks in last year's report practically no improvement has taken place in Bhandara. In this district Tahsildars seem to have abandoned all connection with the discipline of the Land Records Staff, and in my opinion the Superintendent of Land Records, Mr. Darhe, is extremely slack in this respect. The percentage of Patwaris non-resident without permission in Bilaspur has fallen from 15 per cent to 10 per cent, a further marked improvement on the previous year's figures. The remarkable rise to 22·6 per cent in Chhindwara is due to the elimination of inefficient men, and the appointment of new men, who have not yet taken up residence, and transfers and the appointment of new men account for rather high figures in Chanda (12·04 per cent) and Seoni (8·33 per cent).

Training of Patwaris.

18. Except at Damoh, survey classes were opened for the training of Patwaris and Patwari candidates, usually at the Revenue Inspectors' head-quarters, but where this was impossible at head-quarters. The Settlement Officers of Nagpur, Hoshangabad and Chhindwara took advantage of the presence of Map Correction Assistant Settlement Officers to have as many Patwaris as possible trained in a really efficient manner.

19. The following table shows the disciplinary measures taken against Patwaris in the year under report as compared to the previous year :—

Conduct and discipline of Patwaris.

	1912-13.	1913-14.
Dismissals	98	129
Reductions	44	23
Fines	925	51
Suspensions	127	255
Transfers	89	87
Total ...	1,283	545

Fines were abolished last year, but the orders were not immediately noted in all districts, and a few Patwaris were fined in the beginning of the year. The increase in the number of dismissals is largely due to the extension of settlement operations to the Chhindwara district, where 31 Patwaris were dismissed, most if not all, of these having obstinately avoided the hard work involved in settlement and map correction. The only other districts where the number of dismissals is at all remarkable are Raipur and Drug, in which districts the Patwari Staff is extremely poor in all respects. The increase in suspensions is due to the abolition of fining, a change which many Deputy Commissioners deplore, and certainly until Patwaris are graded the maintenance of discipline is difficult in the case of Patwaris who are habitually committing minor offences, such as overstaying leave or absence from their circles or offices for a day or two without leave. The Settlement Officer, Hoshangabad, has suggested the introduction of the black-mark system, which is in use in the Police, and Deputy Commissioners are being consulted on the point. Suspension, except for lengthy periods, is a punishment to be avoided, as a competent substitute is not to be had ; but with the staff graded, and with the black-mark system properly worked, I think the difficulties of the district officer will very largely disappear.

20. Only 23 Revenue Inspectors were punished during the year, and ten of these punishments were inflicted in Raipur and Bilaspur. As a matter of fact I do not think the Revenue Inspectors are as worthy as the figures would indicate. There is a general tendency for the Superintendents of Land Records to usurp the Tahsildar's position with reference to the maintenance of the discipline of the Revenue Inspector's staff, and the results are most unsatisfactory. The Deputy Commissioner, Seoni reports that with one exception his Revenue Inspectors have no controlling power, and I should say that this was true of a large proportion of the present staff. In Bhandara, discipline as maintained by the Superintendent of Land Records was decidedly slack, for one Revenue Inspector was twice warned that he would lose his good-conduct allowance for bad work, and was finally warned that he would be suspended for inaccuracies in his crop forecasts : he still had his good-conduct allowance at the time of the writing of the report. The other district reports contain nothing remarkable.

Revenue Inspectors, their qualifications, conduct and discipline.

21. The district reports say little or nothing about the merits of the various Superintendents of Land Records, but Mr. Chitke of Nagpur is noticed favourably, and Messrs Bhagwan Das of Chhindwara, Afzal Hussain of Betul and Matadin of Chanda are mentioned unfavourably—As a matter of fact the Superintendents of Land Records are not a good lot and are not improving with increasing age and weight. Mr. Bhagwan Das found it advisable to take leave till retirement, and Messrs. Sheocharan Lal and Pandurang Ganesh Agwan were forced to do the same : the latter would have been dismissed, except for the fact that he had practically completed his service, and

Superintendents of Land Records and Assistant Superintendents of Land Records, their qualifications, conduct and discipline.

had done good work at times: he had winked at his Patwaris taking free rasad. The Assistant Superintendents of Land Records did fairly well, but one sub. *pro tem.* man was reduced to his substantive post of Revenue Inspector for fudging his diary and his map correction returns. They are not usually very good material, but now that the cadre has been amalgamated with the subordinate Civil Service, a better class of man will be obtained.

IV.—Utilization of Land Records.

Circle and village note-books.

22. All the circle note-books have been brought up-to-date except in the Jubbulpore tahsil of Jubbulpore, Nimar, where the new note-books have not yet been received, and Bilaspur, and in all the districts in which settlement operations were in progress.

23. Village note-books are generally up-to-date, but there has been some unpunctuality in Damoh, with which the Deputy Commissioner has dealt, and also in districts which are under settlement.

Miscellaneous.

24. I would like to add a word about the extent to which the Superintendents of Land Records have ousted the Tahsildars from the control of the Land Records Staff. One of the chief evils which has resulted from this is the way in which Probationary Patwaris are left unconfirmed for years, though until some change is made in the system of record-keeping, which shows a case as finally disposed of when a man is appointed on probation, there are bound to be some cases of delay in confirming the probationers. The system of maintaining discipline by passing orders on the diaries of Superintendents of Land Records and their Assistants is not a satisfactory one: the cases, if started, are on no register, as the Superintendent of Land Records keeps none, and the result may well be that nothing is done on the Deputy Commissioner's order: I found one case where a Revenue Inspector had either not received or had ignored a Parwana calling on him for an explanation, and the matter had been forgotten.

PART II.—OPERATIONS OF THE SETTLEMENT DEPARTMENT.

25. *General.*—The operations conducted during the year ending 30th September 1914 consisted chiefly in—

(*a*) The revision of the Settlement in the malguzari villages of the Saugor, Nimar, Nagpur, Hoshangabad and Chhindwara districts, and of the ryotwari villages of the Nimar district. There are also a few scattered ryotwari villages in the other districts, the Settlement of which has been taken up along with the neighbouring malguzari villages.

(*b*) The correction of maps and records preparatory to Settlement in the Nagpur, Hoshangabad, Chhindwara and Balaghat districts.

A Forecast Report for the re-settlement of the Balaghat district was submitted during the year

The final Settlement Reports of the Damoh, Wardha and Bilaspur (khalsa) districts were submitted during the year, and the orders of the Government of India were received on the two last.

26. During the course of the year an important change was made in the method of submitting the Settlement Officer's Rent-rate proposals. It was decided that the separate A and C Statements should be abolished, and that the old "C Note" should be entered in the Mahalwar Assessment Statement. By this change the Settlement Commissioner and Financial Commissioner have before them full information about each village, instead of just so much as the Settlement Officer could find room for in his C Note; further the information required for the assessment of a village is now all to be found in one place, instead of being scattered in three places. The change has been found to work very satisfactorily for Settlement Officers and the Settlement Commissioner, and should result in great convenience to District Officers who wish to consult the Settlement records in the future.

27. Another change which was tested was the introduction of calculating machines into the statistical branches of the Nagpur and Hoshangabad offices. This promises well, but I have not had enough experience yet to enable me to make proposals for their general introduction. There is one very serious difficulty in that the machines are made in Germany.

I.—The Revenue Settlement of Malguzari Villages.

28. *Nimar*.—The attestation of the district was completed during the year ending 30th September 1913, and all that remained over was the rent-rating of 186 malguzari and 99 ryotwari villages, and the assessment of 375 malguzari and 178 ryotwari villages. This work was disposed of with great promptitude, and Mr. Nelson was able to leave the district by the end of February leaving Mr. Chhotelal Verma, Assistant Settlement Officer, in charge. In addition to completing the reassessment of the district, Mr. Nelson also revised the patwari halkabandi Mr. Chhotelal disposed of the remains of the fairing of records, and their filing in the District office, and was able to close the Settlement office on 5th May 1914 The final Settlement Report of the district has been received during the year under report, and is now in the Press. No report has been received from Mr. Nelson dealing with the last season's work, but I know he had a very high opinion of the work of Mr. Chhotelal Verma.

Mr. A. E. Nelson, I.C.S., Settlement Officer.
Assistant Settlement Officer, Mr. Chhotelal Verma.

29. *Saugor*.—The attestation of the district is now practically complete. only 37 villages remaining to be checked by the Settlement Officer and this small balance would not have existed, if it had not been for a severe outbreak of cholera. The area attested during the year under report by the Settlement Officer was 1,155 square miles containing 769 villages.

Mr. G. L. Corbett, I.C.S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. Manzur Ahmad, Azmat Ali and D. V. Kane, Assistant Settlement Officers.
Mr. Gourishanker, Settlement Superintendent.

Work in office was somewhat impeded by Mr. Corbett's ill-health and absence on leave. Rent-rate Reports were submitted for 541 villages covering 962 square miles, and Assessment Reports were submitted dealing with 613 villages covering 875 square miles.

Announcement was delayed in the earlier portion of the year owing to the partial failure of the monsoon. When once started progress was rapid, and the revised assessments were announced in 648 villages with an area of 879 square miles. The revised rents have been accepted as perfectly fair both to the malguzars and tenants, a most satisfactory result, and one of which Mr. Corbett may well feel proud considering the very checkered history of the district.

Mr. Corbett speaks very highly of Mr. Manzur Ahmad, Extra-Assistant Commissioner, his senior Assistant Settlement Officer, and also of Messrs Azmat Ali, and Kane, Assistant Settlement officers and Gaurishanker, Settlement Superintendent. Mr. Manzur Ahmad was new to the work, but soon picked it up, and in addition to bringing the office to a greater pitch of efficiency, he did extremely well in keeping the staff together during a severe outbreak of cholera.

30. *Nagpur*.—The programme for the year consisted of the attestation of the western portion of the Umrer tahsil and the whole of the Katol tahsil, a somewhat inconvenient arrangement as Umrer and Katol are at opposite corners of the district. However the work was carried out satisfactorily, though it was only completed on June 8th. The area attested was 1,025 square miles containing 586 villages.

Mr. J. F. Dyer, I.C.S., Settlement Officer.
Messrs. R. K. Indurkar, Chhotelal, K. R. Khotkar, Shankarnath Mehta, Assistant Settlement Officers.

Office work progressed steadily throughout the year. Rent-rate Reports for 516 villages, with an area of 929 square miles, and Assessment Reports for 522 villages with an area of 885 square miles were submitted during the year. In the Nagpur office calculating machines were used, and caused a not inconsiderable economy in time and money.

Considerable progress was made with announcement: the revised assessment was announced in 668 villages, having an area of 1,116 square miles. The revised assessment has caused no dissatisfaction, except amongst the absentee tenants, who reside in the Nagpur bazar and habitually sublet their holdings. Some of these have complained that their incomes have been considerably reduced, but as the true cultivating classes have accepted the revised rents without a murmur, no great weight need be attached to the complaints of absentees.

Mr. Dyer makes no mention of his Assistant Settlement Officers though, I believe, all have been working well, and Mr. Chhotelal extremely well. Of his Inspectors, Mr. Dyer does speak and most unfavourably, but I do not think that as a whole the staff is so bad as he makes out, though there certainly are black sheep amongst them. One of the Inspectors is now being prosecuted for bribery, and three others were dismissed only, the evidence not being strong enough for a prosecution; there were also several cases of slackness. Still my own impression is that the work done is generally good, though undoubtedly the staff does require close control.

Mr. H. C. Gowan, I.C.S., Settlement Officer
Messrs. Chhaganlal, Sankata Prasad and Abdul Jabbar, Assistant Settlement Officers.

31. *Hoshangabad.*—This is the first year of the Hoshangabad Settlement operations. The orders of the Government of India to commence Settlement operations were received early in October, the staff arrived in good time, and work was started promptly. Mr. Gowan's disposition of his field parties was excellent, and the attestation of the Sohagpur tahsil proceeded smoothly, and was completed by the middle of April. The area attested was 783 square miles containing 410 villages.

Office work was started on the completion of the field season. The office staff was none too efficient, and some delay was caused by the inaccuracy of the figures put up to the Settlement Officer and at the end of August there was a serious outbreak of plague which necessitated the removal of the vernacular branch from Hoshangabad to various stations on the main line. Still Rent-rate Reports for 104 villages, with an area of 184 square miles, were submitted by September 30th. Considering that this was the first year of the operations the outturn of work is decidedly satisfactory. Mr. Gowan speaks well of all his Assistant Settlement Officers, and especially so of Mr. Chhaganlal.

Mr. C. J. Irwin, I.C.S., Settlement Officer, Messrs. Chunilal Chhotelal, Verma, Ramcharan Sinha, Ramanand, Panchamlal and W. B. Ghate, Assistant Settlement Officers.

32. *Chhindwara.*—The orders of the Government of India to commence Settlement operations were received somewhat late, and as a result there was some delay in getting the work started. Moreover soil-classing in Chhindwara is extremely difficult owing to the rapid changes of soil and depth, and the great variety of soils found (the geological formation is perpetually changing). This meant that even trained men from other districts were of very little use till they had had time to study the local peculiarities. Finally one of Mr. Irwin's assistants turned out to be quite useless, and another took so long training, that till the middle of April Mr. Irwin had only two party officers giving a full outturn. From this time onward the staff was strengthened, and the services of the incompetent Assistant Settlement Officer dispensed with, and eventually 490 villages with an area of 637 square miles were attested, but the Settlement Officer did not finish his field work till July 2nd. Fortunately the hot weather was not a severe one.

Office work began promptly, and under the supervision of Messrs. Chunilal and Sinha, Assistant Settlement Officers, such good arrangements were made that Rent-rate Reports for 163 villages with an area of 201 square miles were submitted by September 30th. Considering the difficulties with which Mr. Irwin had to contend the results obtained are most creditable.

II.—Correction of Maps and Records preparatory to Settlement.

33. *Nagpur.*—The map correction of the Nagpur district was completed during the year. The area over which the operations extended included the eastern portions of the Umrer and Ramtek tahsils (623 square miles). Area calculation and tracing are not yet complete, but this work will be completed before the end of the office season.

Mr. Jones' work has been consistently good, and in addition to completing the map correction of Nagpur he has also assisted in getting similar operations underweigh in the Seoni and Bhandara districts.

34. *Hoshangabad.*—During the year the maps of the Hoshangabad and Seoni-Malwa tahsils (total area 1,091 square miles) have been brought up to date. Re-survey was necessary in 25 villages with an area of nearly 48 square miles. In the jungly villages considerable difficulty was experienced owing to the disappearance of the traverse marks.

Office work was interrupted by plague at the end of July, but the staff was removed to selected centres, and the work was completed punctually and cheaply, it being unnecessary to employ contractors.

Mr. Anthony's work has been of good quality and he has been well assisted by his Settlement Superintendent, Mr. Murlidhar.

35. *Chhindwara.*—Map correction work in this district is extremely difficult. The Patwari staff is insufficient in numbers, and unused to hard work, the country is extremely broken, and the existing maps are frequently quite unreliable : lastly the number of traverse and sub-traverse marks is insufficient. Mr. Lancaster has had a most difficult piece of work to do, and has done it extremely well. In the 79 villages (area 120 square miles) which had remained over from the Chhindwara tahsil, and 225 villages with an area of 467 square miles of the Amarwara tahsil, the maps were brought up to date. The total area is only 587 square miles, as against 803 square miles in the previous year, but the progress of the operations was seriously hampered by the necessity for a special crop girdawari on account of the failure of the monsoon; this took up fully two months out of the field season. Re-survey was necessary in 49 villages with an area of 80 square miles, but Mr. Lancaster says that re-survey was a relief after map correction on the hopelessly bad traces supplied for this purpose.

Mr. Lancaster speaks highly of his Settlement Superintendents, Messrs. Bahadur Ali and Hanuman Sahai. He also speaks highly of the way the Patwari staff tackled the hard work, which had to be done. They were certainly given very little opportunity for shirking.

36. *Balaghat*—Map correction operations were under the charge of Mr. Mohammad Zaki, who had been in charge of the Nagpur map correction whilest Mr. Jones was absent last year. The work in a rice district, where field boundaries are more or less permanently marked by strong embankments, is much easier than in the wheat or cotton tracts ; still the more jungly villages presented considerable difficulties, and Mr. Zaki has done decidedly well. By the end of the season the maps of 457 villages, with an area of 848 square miles, were brought up to date.

37. In paragraph 6 of the Resolution on the Revenue Administration Report of last year it was suggested that map correction was perhaps an unnecessary expense, as a mistake in soil-classing would make much more difference to a tenant's rent than a mistake in survey. This is most undoubtedly true, and in most districts, if accurate rent fixation was the only object of map correction, this expensive operation would be unnecessary. But rent fixation is not the only duty of the Settlement Officer, nor are maps only required for purposes of assessment. It is also the Settlement Officer's business to prepare an accurate record-of-rights, and it is the Patwari's business to keep this record up to date by means of his annual girdawari, and unless the maps are accurate, this will be impossible. There can be no doubt that at present maps are not accurate, and in some districts very much the reverse, and for this reason map correction work is essential : and it is undertaken at Settlement because then only can adequate control be exercised. The reasons for these inaccuracies I believe to be threefold : (1) the insufficiency of the numbers of the Land Record staff, especially in the Satpura districts, (2) the insufficiency of the number of sub-traverse stations, especially in broken country, (3) the alterations in the old survey due to new cultivation, and the wholesale alterations of old field boundaries which resulted from the famines. The Local Administration has now approved of an increase in the pay and numbers of

the Land Record staff, and I am now making out a programme for an adequate sub-traverse in all districts, so that should there be any further serious alterations to be made in the maps as now corrected, the Land Record staff should be in a position to deal with them accurately. I do not anticipate that at the next round of Settlements map correction will be required in any of the marginally-noted districts, nor in those which are to be re-settled in the immediate future.

Nimar, Saugor, Nagpur, Chhindwara, Hoshangabad and Balaghat.

III.—Surveys carried out.

38. The work of the Traverse establishment was scattered over seven* districts, and much time and money was spent in long journeys from one petty piece of work to another. I find that in the past much labour has been wasted on traversing petty villages in the jungles of the zamindaris, the only standing order on the subject being one of Mr. Carey's passed in 1895 that villages with a rental demand of Rs. 15 should be traversed. This, as a rough and ready rule for the Mapping Party, which was working in advance of the Zamindari Settlement of Raipur, was sound enough. As a permanent rule it is hopeless: numbers of villages are reported for traverse, though there is no guarantee that the cultivation will be permanent. I have consulted the Deputy Commissioners of Chanda, Raipur, Bilaspur, Drug and Chhindwara, and all agree that the present rule should be abandoned. Again requests for additional sub-traverse are sporadic, though the need for this is general. In the hope of economical utilisation of the staff, and also of securing a thorough overhauling of the condition and sufficiency of the existing traverse, I am having a programme worked out for the Provinces, in which the districts will be taken up in regular order, beginning with the Satpura districts where the need seems most urgent. The traversing of the villages in the zamindaris can stand over for the present: after a few years the Deputy Commissioners will be in a position to state what villages are really ripe for traverse, and this will be done in time for the re-settlement of the tracts in question. Traverse work in the seven districts mentioned above amounted to 1,781 linear miles in 434 villages. Sub-traverse was done in 342 villages.

*Nagpur, Betul, Raipur, Bhandara, Seoni, Balaghat and Chanda.

Mr. C. H. G. Johnson of the Survey of India was Assistant Settlement Officer in charge of Traverse Survey during the year. In addition to supervising the work in British India he was also required to supervise the traversing of the following boundary lines:—

(1) Sakti State and Korba Zamindari.
(2) Jashpur State and Sirguja State.
(3) Chhuikhadan State and Thakurtola Zamindari.

IV.—Charge of the Office of Commissioner of Settlements and Director of Land Records, Central Provinces.

39. I held charge of the office of Settlement Commissioner during the whole year under report. Mr. G. H. Searle, I.C.S., was Assistant Settlement Commissioner from the 30th September 1913 to the end of the year. Both Mr. Searle and myself were on tour for a large portion of the year, but it is impossible to say accurately how much time was spent on Settlement and how much on Land Record work.

V.—Supply of Instruments and Stationery.

40. During the year the Instruments and Stationery Depôt attached to my office issued instruments and drawing materials to the value of Rs. 27,538 as detailed below:—

	Rs.
To Settlement Department	13,033
To Deputy Commissioners for use of Patwaris and Land Record work.	10,388
To Feudatory States	61
Otherwise issued, including Berar	4,056
Total ...	27,538

The value of forms supplied through the Anjuman Islamia Press, Jubbulpore, amounted to Rs. 22,708 as shown below :—

	Rs.
To Settlement Department	6,368
To Deputy Commissioners for maintenance of village records.	16,340
Total ...	22,708

The Depôt also arranged, as usual, for the supply to Deputy Commissioners through the same Press of 104,349 tenants' receipt books valued at Rs. 19,565.

VI.—Work of the Office of Settlement Commissioner.

41. I append a statement showing the principal reports which were submitted to the Hon'ble the Chief Commissioner during the year :—

Name of district.	Name of tahsil.	Final Settlement Reports.	Tahsil Assessment Reports or Forecast Reports.	Rent-rate Reports.		Assessment Reports.		
				No. of reports.	No. of villages.	No. of reports.	No. of villages.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	(a) *Malguzari villages.*							
Saugor ...	Rehli ...	...	...	4	201	11	522	
	Banda ...	...	...	8	297	1	30	
	Saugor ...	...	...	1	36	...	...	
Damoh ...	.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Hoshangabad ...	Sohagpur ...	...	...	1	52	...	...	
Nimar ...	Harsud ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	
	Khandwa ...	...	1	1	40	6	229	
	Burhanpur ...	...	1	4	146	4	146	
Chhindwara ...	Chhindwara ...	...	...	1	56	...	...	
Wardha ...	.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	
Nagpur ...	Ramtek ...	...	...	5	276	7	313	
	Saoner ...	...	...	1	87	4	242	
	Umrer ...	...	...	1	66	...	...	
Balaghat ...	.....	...	1	...	...	...	...	
Bilaspur Khalsa ..	.....	1	...	...	...	...	...	
	(b) *Ryotwari villages.*							
Saugor ...	Rehli ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	
	Banda ...	...	...	...	5	...	..	
Nimar ...	Khandwa ...	...	...	...	...	1	79	
	Burhanpur ...	...	...	3	99	3	99	
Nagpur ...	Ramtek ...	...	...	...	5	...	5	
	Total ...	3	4	30	1,367	37	1,666	

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

H. E. HEMINGWAY,

Commissioner of Settlements and Director of Land Records.

STATEMENT I.—Showing the progress made in original Cadastral Survey and preparation of Land Records during the year ending the 30th September 1914.

District.	Field work.				Office work.				Remarks.
	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
Nagpur ...	19,978	...	19,978	...	19,978	...	19,978	...	
Saugor ...	833	...	833	...	833	...	172	661	
Hoshangabad ...	30,633	...	30,633	...	30,633	...	30,633	...	
Chhindwara ...	135,213	39,918	51,265	44,030	135,213	39,918	51,265	44,030	
Balaghat ...	2,775	...	2,775	...	2,775	...	2,775	...	

STATEMENT II.—Showing the progress made in Map Correction during the year ending the 30th September 1914.

District.	Field work.				Office work.				Remarks.
	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	Total area to be dealt with.	Disposed of previously.	Disposed of during the year.	Balance.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
Nagpur	398,490	...	398,490	...	398,490	...	398,490	...	Ramtek and Umrer tahsils.
Saugor	*Nil.*	*Nil.*	*Nil.*	*Nil.*	*Nil.*	*Nil.*	*Nil.*	Nil.	
Hoshangabad	667,626	...	667,626	...	667,626	...	667,626	...	
Chhindwara	1,343,331	474,267	324,332	544,732	1,343,331	474,267	324,332	5,44,732	
Balaghat	*542,942	...	542,942	...	542,942	...	271,400	271,542	* Includes 31 villages of Lanji Circle which have to be passed by superior staff next cold weather.

STATEMENT III.—Showing the progress made in the Regular Revision of Land Revenue Assessment (Field work) during the year ending the 30th September 1914.

District.		Attestation.						Announcement.			Remarks.
		Total. to be attested.	Attested in previous year.	During the year under report.			Balance to be attested by Inspectors.	Total to be announced.	Announced during the previous year.	Announced during the year under report.	
				Attested by Inspectors.	Passed by Assistant Superior Officer.	Inspected by Superior Officer.					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Nagpur ...	Area in square miles ...	3,311	1,701	1,02-	1,025	1,025	585	3,311	296	1,116	
	Number of villages ...	2,116	1,006*	586*	586	586	405*	2,116	177	668	*The total does not agree on account of amalgamation of villages.
Saugor ...	Area in square miles ...	3,191	3,190	1	611	1,155	...	3,191	36	879	
	Number of villages ...	2,078	2,077	1	384	769	...	2,078	38	†648	† In 61 of these revenue is yet to be assessed and kabuliyats to be taken.
Hoshangabad ...	Area in square miles ...	2,701	...	783	783	783	1,918	2,701	...	...	
	Number of villages ...	1,390	...	410	410	410	980	1,390	...	...	
Chhindwara ...	Area in square miles ...	2,309	..	643	637	637	1,666	2,309	...	...	
	Number of villages ...	1,427	....	493	490	490	934	1,427	...	...	

STATEMENT IV.—Showing the progress made in the Regular Revision of Land Revenue Assessment (Office work) during the year ending the 30th September 1914.

District.		Total to be assessed.	Records completed.	Records faired and passed.	Records copied for Patwaris.	First trace made.	Second trace made.	Ryotwari abstracts prepared.	Rent rates submitted.	Assessment Report submitted.	Balance.		Misls completed after announcement.	Sheets amended.	Remarks.
											For rent rates.	For final assessment.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Nagpur ...	Area in square miles ...	3,311	1,025	816	...	511	1,401	1,226	929	885	1,287	1,653	1,034	802	
	Number of villages ...	2,116	586	489	...	362	836	724	516	522	943	1,134	618	451	
Saugor ...	Area in square miles ...	2,191	1,437	1,581	284	1,518	1,5 19	1,770	962	875	1,546	2,032	479	1,438	
	Number of villages ...	2,078	905	969	233	946	947	1,075	541	613	1,000	1,255	359	907	
Hoshangabad ...	Area in sqare miles ...	2,701	768	743	..	...	...	398	184	...	2,517	2,701	...	697	
	Number of villages ...	1,390	404	393	...	...	...	226	104	...	1,286	1,390	...	377	
Chhindwara Khalsa	Area in square miles ..	2,309	637	515	...	549	...	457	201	...	2,108	2,309	...	636	
	Number of villages ...	1,427	490	396	...	434	...	368	163	...	1,264	1,427	...	489	

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